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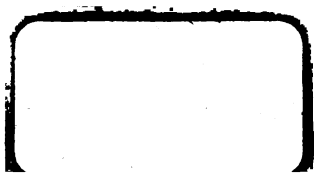
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Belfast

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THE
BELFAST MONTHLY MAGAZINE.

CONTAINING

COMMUNICATIONS, ORIGINAL
AND SELECTED.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

POETRY.

DETACHED ANECDOTES.

REVIEW OF NEW PUBLICATIONS.

FOREIGN, ANCIENT, AND MO-
DERN LITERATURE.

LIST OF NEW PUBLICATIONS.

DISCOVERIES AND IMPROVEMENTS
IN ARTS AND MANUFACTURES.

MONTHLY RETROSPECT OF PO-
LITICS.

OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS.

PROVINCIAL OCCURRENCES.

AGRICULTURAL.....REPORT.

COMMERCIAL.....

METEOROLOGICAL.....

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CELESTIAL PHENOMENA.

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Θμιστος πολιτικης αριστης ΤΥΠΟΓΡΑΦΙΑ Φωκας
Απας δε πιστους, απ' ΕΛΕΥΘΕΡΙΑΣ ΔΟΥΛΕΙΑΣ

VOL. V.

FROM JULY TILL DECEMBER, 1810.

Belfast :

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY JOSEPH SMYTH,

115, HIGH-STREET.

To whom Communications (post paid) are to be addressed.

1810,

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MOY WEN
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YRAGU

ON arriving at the close of our fifth volume, it may be permitted to speak briefly of ourselves. It is not for us to say how far we have fulfilled the expectations given in our prospectus. Whether our sentiments on political subjects are approved or not, we have spoken with honesty our undisguised opinions, nor have we sacrificed sincerity for the sake of popularity. The same line we are determined to pursue, and to speak unwelcome truths at the risque, of diminishing our sales. Private emolument has not been made our object in this publication: A consciousness of self-approbation, and the applause of a discerning few are noble rewards.

To our correspondents we acknowledge our obligations for many valuable communications, and solicit a continuance of their favours. Through their kind assistance our pages have been often enriched.

It is impossible to please all tastes. We have been censured for very opposite qualities. Some have told us, our pages have been too learned; and others have blamed us for a defect in this respect. We have been called too grave, and trifling has been recommended to us. But we fear many mistake as to the qualities which a magazine ought to possess, and have formed their judgments on the defective models, by which the Irish taste has been vitiated. After the plan of the most respectable British publications of a similar kind, we have aimed to make a magazine a collection of important information on a variety of subjects, not merely calculated to amuse an idle hour, but to raise the mind to higher views. We put in our claims for some share in the honour of literature, to which we are desirous to conduct our readers, and which we consider to be strictly compatible with the nature of a periodical miscellany.

It would be amusing if we could convey in a short compass to our readers, all the hints we have received intended for our instruction.

We have been advised to abandon graver subjects, and give receipts in quackery and cookery. Perhaps a report of the fashions would be acceptable to many of our readers. We have also been advised to give a frontispiece, as a decoration to each number. If we had a subject to illustrate by a good print, we should not object to the expense of an engraving; but we cannot consent to abuse the public by giving pretended likenesses, or amuse by the frivolities and refuse of the graphic art.

We hope it will not be imputed to us as arrogance, if we venture to decline much of the advice we have received; yet we are not too proud to learn, and shall willingly avail ourselves of the instruction which our correspondents and friends may communicate to us, but we cannot promise to surrender our own judgments, and we are convinced such a sacrifice would not be required of us by those best qualified to instruct.

We trust we shall not be considered as presumptuous, if we characterize our labours in the words of the poet...

“Content, if hence the unlearn’d their wants may view,
The learn’d reflect on what before they knew;
Careless of censure, nor too fond of fame,
Still pleas’d to praise, but not afraid to blame,
Averse alike to flatter, or offend,
Not free from faults, nor yet too vain to mend.”

WROX WOOD
CLUB
WROX

THE

BELFAST MONTHLY MAGAZINE.

No. 24.]

JULY 31, 1810.

[Vol. 5.]

COMMUNICATIONS, ORIGINAL AND SELECTED.

To the Proprietors of the Belfast Magazine.

THE REJOINDER OF S. E.

“What a monstrous fellow art thou, thus to rail on one, that is neither known of thee, nor knows thee?”

SHAKESPEARE.

GENTLEMEN,

THE two last numbers of your Magazine have favoured me with a tolerably ample portion of crimination. Your known regard to justice will readily allow the accused to be heard in his own defence.

In my letter to a Student at college no name is mentioned, no individual is identified. A portion of its contents is applied to a Mr. M'Henry, styled the Bard of Erin, by a writer who signs himself T, and by an Irish Student. These gentlemen, then, construct my language into personal allusion, while itself contains no personalities. I acknowledge there are two sentences in my letter which will now appear applicable to the Bard of Erin, not owing to their own contents, but to the interpretation put upon them by the advocates of the Poet. The sentences are, “it is not easy to see what the Bard you mention gains by endeavouring to add to his stature, and at so much expense too, unless he expects the more successfully to recommend himself to some of these fair angels who set a high value on appearances. I should have imagined his Bardship would rather have been proud of resembling the crooked and dwarfish figure of Pope.” To Mr. M'Henry I do hereby express my sorrow, that any thing said by me, should have given occasion to his two professed friends *inadvertently* to expose his bodily infirmities. From these two sentences it is impossible for sophistry itself to extract any reflection upon

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the *mind* of the poet. No publication of his, at the time of writing the letter, had I so much as seen. To no production of that gentleman have I made the least allusion. That I have at all pointed a single expression against his writings cannot be proved or inferred from any language of my letter. Therefore I am justified in asserting that the Irish Student has illogically charged me with making an attack upon the compositions of the Bard of Erin. My Correspondent had mentioned some person from Ireland (not Mr. M'Henry) who was unsuccessfully attempting to publish poems by subscription. Without alluding to this person or any other, with no intention to give offence, the mere circumstance of unsuccessfulness in thus becoming an author, gave occasion to all that has been said as to publishing by subscription, as also to my observations respecting inferior Poets. That Pope, Burns, or others of distinguished celebrity have, of necessity, for emolument, or in compliance with the earnest solicitation of learned friends, published by subscription, furnishes no tenable ground for animadversion upon what I have written. If by the merited and unsolicited patronage of subscription, the world have been privileged with some of the most famous works, they have also been imposed on by the most paltry performances, introduced to the public view through the aid of a list of subscribers, who were procured by the specious hand bills and the assiduous canvass of the conceited scribbler.

That some Poets are inferior to others, that some, who assume that name, are beneath criticism, that of such as are inferior, some may improve, and others never become

A

eminent is the sum of all I have said. If herein I have fairly procured the blame of indiscriminate censure, let the candid reader judge. General censure, where no name is mentioned, may be improved by all to whom it applies, without wounding the feelings of any individual before the public. General criticism founded in truth is right, as well as particular praise or blame. If my remarks are applicable to no modern productions, let them meet with that contempt which they deserve: but they are not condemnable if some rhymers merit whatever blame they may be fairly supposed to contain. Dryden, in the poem entitled *Mac-Flecknoe*, says,

"Shadwell alone, of all my sons is he
Who stands confirmed in full stupidity;
The rest to some faint meaning make pretence,

But Shadwell never deviates into sense.

Why are these lines reprehensible? Because an individual is ill-naturedly named, and principally because they are not true. Precisely to mark a writer, to make no quotations from his compositions illustrative of his mistakes, to point out no particular defects with which he is chargeable, and yet indulge groundless and indiscriminate censure on both the man and his writing is improper. How far I am guilty of this impropriety, and how far the *Irish Student* is chargeable therewith in his answer to my letter, let reason and candour determine. A section of my epistle he calls an unfounded, ill-conceived, and ill-expressed invective: but wherein it is so is not stated. He charges me either directly or obliquely with ignorance, stupidity, misrepresentation, gross misstatement, illiberal abuse, indelicacy, scurrility, want of feeling, want of breeding, insult and moral depravity. I would beg leave to ask this gentleman, in a quotation from himself, does he conceive the above language suitable to "the improved manners of the present times." I hope he does not. He writes, he says in defence of the judgment of the *ablest* among the professors in college, and at the desire of a number of the *Irish Students*. For the sake of literature, and the honour of Irishmen, I trust he had the approbation of no man in the use of the language

above quoted. I am inclined to think he wrote in a passion, and without a deliberate approbation of himself. It would be a large addition to the refinement of even this refined age, were the tongue and the pen forever prohibited the use of such language. The orations of opponents and the publications of controversial writers would be much curtailed.

Since the writing of my letter, I have been favoured with a reading of the poem entitled "*Patrick*." Respecting this tale, the *Irish Student* concludes, that, I have either not seen the work which I yet endeavour to depreciate, or having seen it, I have not been able to detect any blemishes in it. That production is more than human in which there are no imperfections. The *Student* does not say it is without faults; but from my alleged disposition infers an incapacity of discerning them. He seems to hint it is without blemishes, at least in its plan, language, and ideas. He calls it an excellent, beautiful little poem, that will be read and admired for centuries. Depreciation is not more detrimental than exaggerated encomium. He that flatters an author beyond what he deserves, does him as much injury as the unjust critic who detracts from his real merits.

Influenced by no envy or prejudice against Mr M'Henry with whom I have not the least acquaintance, from a real regard to his success as an author and a poet, I take the liberty of making a few observations on "*Patrick*" in addition to the just critique of *Amicus*. This publication appears to me to have been rather unseasonable both as to time and place. The summer of ninety-eight has elapsed; better times have ensued; being an unhappy period, it would seem more prudent, and more congenial to the spirit of an Irishman to cast a veil over it, than by a tragical detail of our follies and our woes to revive, especially in another country, what is partly forgotten.

The concluding lines of *Patrick's* exclamation, commencing with

Ab! no, I see the desolated farms,"

page 12th and 13th, display consider-

able poetic talent. They are musical and good, especially these four:

"No orchards smile with fruitful honours
gay,

No cultur'd flowers the gardner's pride
display;

No peasant whistles o'er the dewy vale,
No Maiden listens to her lover's tale."

But in this, in page 18th, and other parts of the poem, are not the misfortunes of these times exaggerated? Poetic license should not *here* admit of heightening the picture beyond what is true. The incidents are not remote, the poem is principally narrative, and Henry is introduced declaring,

"And truth alone shall dictate what I
say."

The fruits of the ground were not destroyed; provision was plenty both in possession and in prospect: actual disturbance was limited to a few spots: trade and public credit continued to a remarkable extent during the very time of commotion. In some unavoidable instances the innocent may have suffered; but in general, punishment fell upon the head of the guilty. The attempts to rebel were defeated without much loss of blood. Justice and humanity were prevalent, even in the exercise of martial law amongst our deluded countrymen.

Some expressions in this poem seem to lean too much to the side of those who appeared in open rebellion. Let the following stanzas illustrate this remark:

"Not still to justice is success allied,
And fortune smiled upon the stronger
side—

When heaven appeared to give the *righte-*
ous o'er,

And seemed a while to rule the earth no
more;

But his dread arm with vengeance yet
shall come

And tyrants tremble as he writes their
doom."

The wild extremes to which advocates for reform have run, the modern history of continental Europe, and especially of France, the miseries of anarchy, should excite every man to use his influence in promoting the peace of his country. Solomon's precept is a good one, "Fear the Lord and the king, and meddle not with them that are given to change.

Some lines of this production are prosaic, as,

"Forced from their ruined homes and
friends to go—

As once by business far abroad compelled
With one companion home my way I held."

while others display poetic beauty, as,

"We heard a voice which sang a tale of
wars,

Wild as the rocks from whence its numbers
rose:

We bent to listen—all my bosom glowed
While thus the strains in plaintive can-
dence flowed."

Mary's song, in page 24th, she being considered a maniac, may be naturally supposed to be incoherent; but there is no reason why its language should be rough, mean, or inharmonious.

On the verses,

"'Twas patriot warmth that *did* his breast
excite,—

This house to youthful Henry *did* belong,
His powerful arm with vengeance *did*
abound."

I would observe, in good modern poetry the auxiliary verb is not thus used, unless in the expression of admiration, or where a question is asked. The abbreviations *that's* and *ye'd* are inelegant.

Perspicuity and simplicity are the chief recommendatory characteristics of this poem.

These are laudable qualities in every composition but especially so in a tale. A want of fire and spirit is its chief defect.

Viewing the entire execution of "Patrick," I presume the author should not be offended though he were ranked amongst the number of inferior poets, and allowed a little pre-eminence in that station; nor should his fellow Student deny my remarks the dignity of criticism, even though in comparing a Scott to the sun I had likened the Bard of Erin to a revolving planet.

Any recommendation from an opponent might be supposed to be almost useless. Were I to assume the air of a counsellor my advice to the Irish Student would be. Let your attempts at witticism be always natural. The story of the cock is unworthy of reply; it is forced humour, and such will never pass for

wit among the discerning. Let your premises be always as extensive as your conclusions. Censure modestly and mildly. Never go about to secure the esteem or friendship of this man, by becoming the foe of that; nor seek to establish the reputation of one, by endeavouring to promote the ruin of another. Fulsome encomiums and ill natured depreciation are both extremes. Give every man fair play, and he will stand at that level in society to which his merits raise, or his demerits sink him.

Ballynahinch

S. E.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

FEVER HOSPITAL AND HOUSE OF RECOVERY, CORK-STREET.

Dublin, 12th April, 1810.

AS it appears, by a reference to the registry of admissions, that many children belonging to different charity schools in Dublin, labouring under contagious fever, have been lately received into said hospital, the *managing committee* feel it incumbent on them, to recommend to the governors and governesses of these charities a more strict observance of personal cleanliness amongst the children, together with free ventilation, as well as frequent cleansing and white-washing of the rooms, used as schools and dormitories.

The committee also wish to impress on the minds of the upper classes of inhabitants in Dublin, the bad effects occasioned by the filthy and confined state in which a great majority of their servants are usually lodged, as to bedding, apartments, &c. &c. which in many instances have, to the knowledge of the committee, proved the means of exciting and keeping up *contagious fever*.

The committee avail themselves of this opportunity to congratulate the public on the success of an institution which has proved the happy means of giving a considerable check to the progress of *contagious fever*, and consequently of having improved the health of the inhabitants of this populous city, as it is a fact which cannot be too generally known, that since the opening of the hospital in 1804, the number of persons, for whom application has been made for admis-

sion has diminished, although at the commencement, and for some time thereafter, the district relieved, comprehended only about five parishes in the liberty, and neither servants nor persons affected with scarlet fever were received, whilst for upwards of a year past, the limits of admission have been extended to the entire of the city of Dublin, within the circular road, and servants as well as every other description of poor, labouring under contagious fever (scarlatina included) are now admissible:

In order to secure a continuance of these benefits, the committee annex the code of advice, which the porters attending the hospital-carriage leave at every house from whence a patient is removed, which they earnestly hope will be strictly followed by those persons to whom it is more immediately addressed, as well as by the inhabitants of the city of Dublin at large, and in a measure of this important nature, the committee confidently expect the co-operation and assistance of all humane and public spirited individuals.

By order,
William Richardson,
Register.

ADVICE.

Though you have sent your friend to the house of recovery, yet the infection may still remain in your rooms, and about your clothes; to remove it, you are advised to use without delay, the following means:

1st. Let all your doors and windows be immediately thrown open, and let them remain so for two hours.

2d. Let the house or room whence the patient is removed, be immediately cleansed; all dirty clothes, utensils, &c. should be immersed in cold water; the bed clothes, after being first steeped in cold water, should be wrung out, and washed in warm water and soap.

3d. Let the clothes you wear be steeped in cold water, and afterwards washed; and let every box, chest, drawer, &c. in the infectious house be emptied and cleansed.

4th. If you lie on straw beds, let the straw be immediately burned, and fresh straw provided, and let the ticken be steeped in cold water.

5th. White-wash all your rooms, and the entrance to them, with lime slacked, in the place where you intend to use it, and while it continues bubbling and hot.

6th. Scrape your floor with a shovel, and wash it clean, also your furniture.

7th. Keep in the open air, for the space of a week, as much as you can.

And lastly. Wash your face, hands and feet, and comb your hair well, every morning.

N.B. The benefit of this advice, after infection has entered your dwelling, you will soon feel, and persevering in your attention to it, will, under God, preserve you from all the variety of wretchedness occasioned by infectious fevers.

Attend to it then with spirit and punctuality, for be assured that cleanliness will check disease, improve your health and strength, and increase your comfort.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

HIBERNIAN SUNDAY SCHOOL SOCIETY.

President....The Right Hon. and Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Kilmore.

Guardians....Countess of Kingston; Countess of Meath; Countess of Charleville; Countess of Portarlington; Viscountess Powerscourt; Lady Norwood; Mrs. Peter Latouche; Mrs. Shaw; Earl of Meath; Count de Salis; Thomas Parnell, esq. John David Latouche, esq. Peter Latouche, Jun. esq.

Treasurer, the Right Hon. David Latouche and Co....Secretary, James Digges Latouche, esq....Assistant Secretary, the Rev. Mr. Creighton.

Committee....Rev. Doctor M'Dowell; Rev. B. W. Mathias; Rev. William Thorpe; Rev. John Crosilwaite; Rev. Moore Morgan; Leonard Ogilby, esq. John Guinness, esq. A. Boyle, esq. Vicars Boyle, esq. Arthur Keene, esq. Isaac D'Olier, esq. Robert Newenham, esq. J. K. James, esq. William Beilby, esq. M. Keene, esq.

Subscriptions received by Right Hon. David Latouche, and Co. Dublin; Messrs. Puget, and Co. Warwick-lane, London; Messrs. Bernard and Co. Birr; Messrs. Tennent, Calkwell and Co. Belfast; John Aderson, esq. Fer-

moy; Right Hon. Sir John Stewart and Co. Dublin and Londonderry; by the Guardians or any of the Committee.

Communications to be sent, post paid, directed to the Secretary, at the Repository No. 33, Anglesea street.

THAT national education is of the utmost importance to Ireland, and that rapid strides have been made in the advancement of this desirable object, within a few years, are facts generally admitted, and in proportion as the extent and benefit of what has been done are acknowledged, so does the view excite general inquiry, as to what yet remains to be done, or what measures may be adopted to render the object more diffusive and permanent. The attention, not only of individuals but also of associated bodies, has been turned to the subject, various plans have been proposed and considerable exertion has been made and is still making, in the laudable endeavour to extend the blessings of instruction.

When it is considered that the greater part of the population of Ireland are excluded, by the poverty of their condition, from deriving any advantage from the customary modes of daily education, and that so circumstanced, those individuals are the more immediate objects in view; the natural research is as to that mode which if adopted, will be most diffusive and beneficial in its results; and in the inquiry, it is necessary to take into special consideration the situation of the persons intended to be benefited, who, almost without exception, derive subsistence from continued labour, and of course must be accommodated by arrangements answering to their short periods of leisure.

Amongst the various plans therefore hitherto suggested, none has perhaps been adopted more generally useful, under the foregoing circumstances, or more effectually tending to the end proposed, than the establishment of Sunday Schools.

They hold out to the children of the manufacturer and the peasant, the means of procuring instruction of the most important kind, at once tending to inculcate the principles of religion, leading as a consequence, to

decency and good conduct, and affording a pleasing domestic employment to the lower orders in the improvement of their minds by reading, and the acquirement of habits which will naturally supersede occupations of the grossest and most fatally destructive tendency; they also lead to decent and useful appropriations of the Sabbath, by rendering that period of rest from bodily labour instrumental to the acquirement of knowledge, which is at present, in too many instances, dedicated to profligacy and guilt.

It is further to be observed, that the influence of these schools does not confine its effects merely to the Sunday, or to the children who are the more immediate objects of instruction. In the one instance, the school books, the use of which is given to them on the week days, will be read with sedulous attention, and the children feeling the advantages afforded them, and appreciating their value, will be stimulated to extraordinary diligence, and will be found not alone to cope with, but sometimes to surpass even week-day scholars in application and successful exertion. Nor will the instruction they receive be always confined to themselves, but what they have learned will be communicated to others with the eagerness of young minds ardent at the dawning of information; their infant brothers and sisters will, in turn, become their pupils at home, and not unfrequently the parents themselves derive the first rudiments of knowledge from their offspring; the fact of a child instructing his father in the lessons he had learned at a Sunday school, progressively as he himself received them, is too interesting and important to be omitted, and speaks most strongly that the influence of Sunday-school education, extends beyond the day on which it is administered and without the walls of the institution.

Thus far the view has been principally directed to the consequences resulting to the individuals, the immediate objects of establishments such as have been stated, but a very momentous and important one remains to be considered, and that is, the effects of the relation that will exist between the teachers and their scholars; as the instructors generally act

gratuitously, a mutual feeling of interest will naturally be excited; the teachers on the one hand, considering it as their duty not only to attend to the education of the children on Sunday, but likewise to their morals and conduct during the week, (a superintendence which their local situation and individual knowledge will readily admit of) they will assist them on their entrance into, and progress through life, considering it as their duty to befriending them in circumstances of distress, sickness, and affliction.

The children on the other hand will look up to their teachers with almost filial fondness, their growing years will enable them to appreciate the motives which induced their superiors in life to give up their time, gratuitously, to the arduous task of instruction, for their advantage, and the man will contemplate with affection and reverence, the individuals or decendants of those whose kindness instructed his infancy and gave a true value to his riper years.

Such are a few of the many advantages obviously resulting from Sunday school education: the conviction of the vital importance of this object has given rise to the *Hibernian Sunday School Society*, which has been formed for the purpose of extending and giving efficacy to the establishment and the conducting of Sunday schools in Ireland, a measure, it is trusted, the necessity of which will be sufficiently felt to gain it very extensive patronage and support. Although Sunday schools have been partially established throughout the kingdom, and have promoted proportionable good, it is confidently hoped that this society will tend to increase the number and render education in Ireland somewhat commensurate with the necessity of its population. In England the business has been for some time conducted with astonishing effect, as the London Sunday School Society state, that they have assisted or established 2,917 Sunday schools containing 246,724 scholars and that the Stockport Sunday school alone, consists of the average number of three thousand children and upwards. In the principality of Wales

also, the result of Sunday school instruction has answered the most sanguine expectation, numbering among the objects who enjoy its benefits, not merely children but adults and persons far advanced in years.

In order to show the objects of this institution, the following extracts from the general rules of the society are subjoined.

2d. The object of this society is to promote the establishment and facilitate the conducting of Sunday schools in Ireland.

3d. The society proposes to accomplish the object of their institution, by procuring and disseminating the most approved plans of conducting Sunday schools, by supplying them with spelling books and copies of the sacred Scriptures, at reduced prices, and by contributing to defray the expenses of such schools where necessary, without however interfering with their internal regulations, and as to religious instruction, confining themselves solely to the sacred Scriptures or extracts therefrom.

4th. That this society shall receive subscriptions however small, and that a subscription of one guinea annually shall constitute a member.

5th. The subscription of ten pounds at one time shall constitute a member for life.

6th. A committee of fifteen members, resident in Dublin, together with the treasurer and secretaries, shall be appointed to conduct the business of the society, three of whom to be a quorum.

7th. The committee shall have the management of the monies of the society with the exception of the funded property, they shall fill up any vacancies which may occur in their own body, shall have the power of appointing country members of the committee, and of calling extraordinary general meetings of the society when expedient, giving a fortnight's notice of the time, place and object of such meeting.

8th. The committee shall meet once a month or oftener if necessary.

10th. The society shall hold their annual meeting on the last Tuesday in November, when the accounts of the preceding year and the report of the committee shall be presented.

12th. An annual report of the proceedings of the society, with an account of the state of the funds and a list of the subscribers shall be published.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

We have procured for the information of our Readers 6 additional Reports, from the 4th to the 10th inclusive, of the Commissioners of the Board of Education in Ireland. We subjoin the 4th on the Diocesan free schools. The others shall be given in succession.

FOURTH REPORT FROM THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, IN IRELAND. ACT 46 GEO. III. DIOCESAN FREE SCHOOLS.

TO his grace Charles Duke of Richmond and Lenox, &c. &c. &c. Lord Lieutenant General and General Governor of Ireland.

May it Please your Grace.

We the undersigned Commissioners, appointed for inquiring into the several funds and revenues granted for the purposes of education, and into the state and condition of all schools in Ireland upon public or charitable foundations, in pursuance of the powers vested in us, beg leave to submit to your grace our report upon the present state of the diocesan free schools of Ireland.

The diocesan free schools were established under the authority of an act passed in the 12 Eliz. c. 1. which enacted, that there should be a free school in every diocese in Ireland; that the lord deputy or other chief governor or governors, for the time being, should appoint the schoolmasters in every diocese except those of Armagh, Dublin, Meath, and Kildare, of which the respective archbishops and bishops were to appoint the masters, that the school-house for every diocese should be erected in the principal shire town of the diocese, at the costs and charges of the whole diocese, without respect of freedoms, by the device and oversight of the ordinaries of each diocese (or the vicars general *side vacante*) and the sheriff of the shire; that the lord deputy or other chief governor, with and by the advice of the privy coun-

cil, should according to the quantity and quality of each diocese appoint such yearly pension, salary or stipend for every schoolmaster as he should think convenient, whereof the ordinaries of every diocese should pay yearly for ever the third part, and the parsons, vicars, prebendaries, and other ecclesiastical persons should pay the other two parts by an equal contribution, to be made by the ordinaries; and that all churches, parsonages, vicarages, and other ecclesiastical livings, that have come by any title whatsoever to the possession of the queen or any of her progenitors should be charged with this payment and contribution, in whose hands or possessionsoever they are or shall come.

It appears that free schools were actually established under this act in most, if not all, of the dioceses in Ireland, many of which continue to exist at this time; but at no time do they appear to have fully answered the purposes of their institution; before the restoration indeed we have not been able to find any account of them, but from the state of the kingdom it is not probable they were either regularly kept or usefully conducted; soon after that event a commission, appears to have been issued by the Lord Lieutenant and council, directing the bishops of the several dioceses to carry the act of the 12. Eliz. into effect, and for that purpose to apportion the sums to be paid out of the different ecclesiastical livings in each diocese for the stipend or salary of the diocesan schoolmasters, which was accordingly done in many, and perhaps in all the dioceses; but if schools were at that time generally set on foot, they appear to have been of little public utility, partly from the want of proper school houses, and other accommodations for the masters. In the 12th George I. an act was passed empowering archbishops, bishops, &c. to set apart an acre of ground, out of any lands belonging to them, for the site of a free school, to be approved of by the chief governor for the time being; and directing, that until such ground be set out the school should be kept in such convenient place as the archbishop or bishop of the diocese should be able to

procure for a yearly rent or otherwise; and further empowering the grand jury of each county to present, from time to time, such sums as they should find reasonable for their respective proportion towards building or repairing the school-houses in their counties, to be levied on the whole or such part thereof as are situated in each respective diocese. Under this act a considerable improvement appears to have taken place in the state of diocesan schools, but as presentments for the different proportions of each county in the several dioceses were found extremely inconvenient, if not impracticable, the grand jury of each county, in which a diocesan school is situated, were, by an act of 29th George II. empowered to present sums to be levied on the whole county for building or repairing the school-house; still however there are several dioceses unprovided with proper school houses, and some without any, and the general benefit derived from the whole institution is far from corresponding with the intention of the legislature, or even with the number of schools actually kept or supposed to be so. It appears from an abstract of the returns made from the several dioceses, and herewith submitted to your grace, that out of the whole number, thirty-four, composing twenty two archbishops, and bishopricks, only ten are provided with diocesan school-houses in tolerable repair; in three others the houses are either out of repair or otherwise insufficient, and the remainder are wholly unprovided, and the masters of such schools as are kept in them either rent houses for the purposes, or are accommodated in other ways. But it appears from the same returns that in some of them no diocesan school is kept at all, and in others no effective one; and that the whole number of effective schools in all the dioceses together is only thirteen, and that the whole number of scholars in all the schools together does not exceed 380. In the greater part of the dioceses in which no school is kept there is no contribution from the clergy for the payment of a master; but in some instances the salary is actually paid by the

clergy to an nominal master, who either keeps no school at all, or one on a different foundation, in which the diocesan is wholly absorbed.

These irregularities and defects in the present state of the diocesan schools appear to have arisen from various causes, in which there is little or no ground for supposing the backwardness or inattention of the bishops and clergy to have had any share; the utter unadequacy of the stipend, which is or should be collected for the maintenance of the master, and which in no *single* diocese exceeds £40. per annum, and in some is so low as £25 would alone account for the non-existence or discontinuance of these schools, except in situations otherwise advantageous, and where grammar schools would therefore be established and flourish without the aid of so inconsiderable an endowment. In several instances the establishment of other schools in their immediate vicinity with ample endowments, and on more enlarged foundations, has either wholly superseded them, or as we have already intimated has swallowed them up.

Such being the actual state of these schools, it may seem to be doubtful whether a system should be continued, which in its principal appears not altogether equitable, and has never been found efficient in practice; which is not called for by the present state of society, and, considered as a tax on the clergy, operates very partially and unequally, twelve out of thirty four dioceses contributing nothing towards its object. At the period of its first establishment, the state of this country was such as to require some effectual provisions for the education even of the upper and middle classes, and as that of the lower order had been imposed on the parochial clergy by the 28th of Henry VIII. the same policy was pursued on the 12th of Eliz. and it was perhaps the wisest which in the circumstances of the times could have been adopted; at the present day it appears to be both unnecessary and ineffectual. If however it should be deemed imprudent to abandon altogether long established foundations,

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which however imperfect or inadequate are still productive of some advantage, we take the liberty of recommending the adoption of measures for rendering them more useful and efficient, and placing them under such regulations that every diocese may contribute its proportion towards their establishment and support; for these purposes we beg leave to suggest, that instead of requiring a school to be kept in every diocese, which has been already found impracticable, a certain number only should be established in every province, to be supported out of the contributions from each diocese in the province; or, if it should be found more convenient, out of a general fund consisting of contributions from all the dioceses in every province. Supposing the whole number of schools thus established to be twelve, and that the average contribution of the 34 dioceses was £36, the endowment of each school would be £102 per annum; but it is presumed the average might be raised to £40 without bearing hard on the clergy, especially if impropietors were obliged to contribute, and if the sons of the poorer clergy and curates were to be admitted into the schools as free scholars; in fixing on the situation for the schools, regard should be had principally to the want of proper grammar schools in the different districts in each province, and, as far as might be, to the continuance of the best of the diocesan schools already existing; by the acts of the 12th George I. and 29th George II. provision is made for building and repairing diocesan school-houses; and in the act which would be necessary for the purpose here suggested they might be so amended, as to apply and be accommodated to that purpose, and provision might be made for putting them in force.

Council Chamber, Dublin Castle, }
April 21st, 1809. } (Signed,)

| | |
|--------------------------|---------|
| W. ARMAOH. | (L. S.) |
| GEO. HALL, Provost | (L. S.) |
| JAS. VERSHOYLE, | (L. S.) |
| Dean of St. Patrick's. } | |
| R. LOVELL EDOUWORTH. | (L. S.) |
| JAMES WHITELAW. | (L. S.) |
| WM. DISNEY. | (L. S.) |

APPEN-

ABSTRACT OF THE RETURNS OF THE DIOCESAN

| DIOCESSES. | SCHOOLS WHERE KEPT. | PATRONS. |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Armagh | No diocesan school | — — |
| Dublin and Glandelagh . . | No diocesan school | — — |
| Tuam | In the town of Tuam | Archbishop of Tuam |
| and | | |
| Ardagh | Kept at Longford | Archbishop of Tuam |
| Cashel | Kept at Cashel | Lord Lieutenant |
| and | | |
| Emly | None | — — |
| Kildare | Kept at Naas | Lord bishop of Kildare |
| Down | Kept at Downpatrick | Lord Lieutenant |
| and | | |
| Connor | | Lord Lieutenant |
| Leighlin | Kept at Carlow | Lord Lieutenant |
| and | | |
| Ferns | Kept near Wexford | Lord Lieutenant |
| Elphin | Kept at Elphin | Lord Lieutenant |
| Meath | In the town of Trim | Lord Bishop of Meath |
| Limerick | No school kept | Lord Lieutenant |
| Ardfert | Kept at castle island, | |
| | in an house formerly a | Lord Lieutenant |
| and | charter school-house | |
| Aghadoc | — — | — — |
| Killala and Achonry . . . | No diocesan school | — — |
| Glonfert and Kilmacduagh . | No diocesan school | — — |
| Killaloe and Kilfenora . . | Kept in Killaloe | Lord Lieutenant |
| Waterford and Lismore . . | No diocesan school | — — |
| Derry | Kept at Derry | Lord Lieutenant |
| Dromore | Kept at Dromore | Lord Lieutenant |
| Cork | Kept in the city of Cork | |
| and | in the master's own house | Lord Lieutenant |
| Ross | Kept at Ross Carbery | Lord Lieutenant |
| Clogher | Kept at Monaghan | Lord Lieutenant |
| Cloyne | Kept at Cloyne | Lord Lieutenant |
| Ossory | In the college | Lord Lieutenant |
| Raphoe | No diocesan school | — — |

DIX.

SCHOOLS, MADE TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, 1808, 1809.

| SCHOOL-HOUSES. | MASTERS. | SALARIES. | NUMBER OF SCHOLARS. |
|---|--|---|---|
| | | £. s. d. | |
| A house and road of Ground | Rev. J. Lawless | 28 4 9 | { Free scholars 6 { Day scholars 6 { Boarders 18 |
| House small, and in a ruinous state | Rev. J. Irwin | 23 — — | { Free scholars 4 { Boarders 4 { Day scholars 18 |
| No school-house | Rev. J. Torrens | 40 — — | { Free scholars — { Boarders — { Day scholars 16 |
| | — — | — — | { Free Scholars — { Boarders 10 { Day scholars 10 |
| A house in very good repair, and a garden | Rev. J. Harrison | Salary 40 <i>l.</i> but only 28 <i>l.</i> is collected | { Free scholars — { Boarders 8 { Day scholars 6 |
| No house | Rev. R. Wilde | 30 <i>l.</i> paid by the bishop, clergy, and a few impropriators | { Free scholars — { Boarders — { Day scholars — |
| No house, a small plot of ground | Rev. R. Dobbs | 40 — — | { Free scholars — { Boarders 19 { Day scholars 3 |
| A house in good order | Rev. A. O. Callaghan | 25 <i>l.</i> but only 15 <i>l.</i> is collected | { Free scholars — { Boarders 20 { Day scholars 30 |
| A new house, and one-fourth acre of ground | Rev. J. M'Gomery | 30 — — | { Free scholars 7 { Boarders 2 { Day scholars 22 |
| A good house, and 15 acres of land | Rev. W. Smith | 30 paid by bishop and 10 <i>l.</i> bequest [clergy 40 <i>l.</i>] | { Free scholars — { Boarders — { Day scholars 14 |
| A school-house in good repair | Rev. J. Harniford | 40 — — | { Free scholars 2 { Boarders 22 { Day scholars 2 |
| An old school-house in ruins | Vacant | 30 per annum the salary appointed | { Free scholars — { Boarders — { Day scholars — |
| House partly in repair | Rev. J. Mahon | 30 per annum paid by bishop and clergy | { Free scholars — { Boarders — { Day scholars — |
| | — — | — — | { Free scholars 16 { Boarders 12 { Day scholars 12 |
| A small house and garden | Rev. A. Allen | 28 — — | { Boarders 17 { Day scholars 31 { of whom 3 are free scholars |
| A house granted by the corporation of Derry | Rev. J. Knox | 40 — — | { Free scholars — { Boarders 6 { Day scholars 70 |
| No house, an acre of land | Rev. F. Burrowes | 22 salary, and the profit rent of the acre of school land | { Free scholars — { Boarders 3 { Day scholars 1 |
| No house | Rev. G. Lee | 30 — — | { Free scholars 6 { Boarders 6 { Day scholars 30 |
| No house | Rev. G. Armstrong | 30 — — | { Free scholars — { Boarders — { Day scholars — |
| A school-house begun 12 years ago, but never finished | Rev. S. Moffat | 50 — — | { Free scholars 1 { Boarders 6 { Day scholars 6 |
| A thatched cabin in tolerable repair | Rev. W. Butler | 30 — — | { Free scholars — { Boarders — { Day scholars 30 |
| None | Rev. Dr. Park, master of the endowed school, called the college, receives the salary | 30 — — | { Free scholars — { Boarders — { Day scholars — |

Chief Secretary's office, Dublin Castle, 27th March 1810.

(A true Copy)

Charles Stanton.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

JULY 1807.

On the Presensation which Animals have of changes in the Weather. By Dr. F. A. A. Mayer, at Göttingen. See *Tillock's Philosophical Magazine*, XI. 211.

FIRST then respecting the presensation which animals have of fair dry weather, clear. Dry weather generally follows after wet weather, when the atmosphere has been freed from the vapours collected in it by their falling to the earth in rain. Clouds as well as rain, and the means by which the air frees itself from the electric vapours that are continually arising, and if these again fall down, it appears very natural that animals, which live chiefly in the open air, should express, by various external movements the ease with which they breathe and perform all their vital functions. From this principle it seems not difficult to explain the following observations.

The fluttering of bats in the evening, beetles flying about on the highways, and the sporting of gnats towards sun set, require no explanation. I shall only remark what is already known to every observer, that this presensation is highly useful to bats as well as to insects. Every shower of rain would render it impossible for them to fly, as their wings are not secured by any oily matter against moisture; they would therefore be rendered much heavier by rain, and unfit for flying, and they could not be so easily placed again in folds, which considering the structure of these animals, is absolutely necessary, as when they have remained dry. The same principle seems to be applicable to the high flight of larks and swallows (1) which perhaps hasten to the upper regions of the atmosphere, because they are freer from vapours, and more suited to them, and because the lower regions being more loaded with vapours, afford them less pleasure than those above. The insects also which they pursue for food take them perhaps a higher flight.

The croaking of the green frog in ponds, I cannot sufficiently explain; but it seems to express the pleasure

arising from the greater quantity of insects then flying about, and which they can catch with more ease and convenience. But clear, dry weather is not so agreeable to frogs as the return of warm weather. (2) If they make a noise in the time of cold rain, warm dry weather will follow. But if the dry weather proceeds from raw winds, and if warmth and rain succeed, their noise may foretell rain; and therefore Linnæus' rule *prædicat pluvium* will lose nothing of its truth. He seems so much the more to be right, as more raw than warm days take place in the climate of Sweden. I have to my great inconvenience experienced the truth of his assertion. on journeys which I was under the necessity of continuing for several days. That the weather fish* (*Cobitis fossilis*) leaves the water quite pure during dry weather, and the green frog† sits at the top of the glass, may proceed from the lighter or heavier state of the atmosphere, particularly as the latter is remarkably fond of cleanliness and moderately pure air.

The assembling of ravens in the fields, and the singing of wood pigeons, may be easily accounted for, from the above principles. I have never seen birds in good weather dress their feathers with oil from their fat glands, in order to secure them from rain; but I have observed many do so when the atmosphere was overcast, and when there was an appearance of rain. I should therefore include this circumstance in the following class, did not experience admit also of another explanation, viz. that the birds from the atmosphere becoming lighter, hope for the speedy arrival of dry weather, and therefore anoint themselves, and secure their feathers from moisture, that they may be able to fly higher than usual, with less impediment. If the last explanation ought not to be altogether re-

* So called, because kept in Germany to foretell changes of the weather; when the weather is fine they continue quiet, but before a storm or rain, they are very restless.

† This animal, though common in many parts of Europe, is not found in England.

jected, as I do not think it can, we may admit of this observation; especially as all the experience of men worthy of belief, allows of no reasoning to be brought against it.(3)

The expression of animals 'which show a presensation of rainy weather, may be explained partly from the increasing weight of the atmosphere, partly from their manner of living, and partly from the want of moisture, which is necessary to their existence. The restlessness of domestic cattle may proceed from many causes. It is known that the atmosphere in summer before rain falls, is generally heavier, on account of the electric vapour that arises. The insects which infest cattle, and which mark this heaviness, become then more numerous, and getting into the stalls where cattle are kept, torment them, and make them restless. The ascending vapour has also some influence on the skins of these animals, which ceases when the earth does not suffer so much vapour to escape as before; or the air too strongly charged with electricity, excites in them an unpleasant sensation. It indeed appears strange to explain the same phenomenon from two perfectly opposite causes, a want and an excess of electricity; but we know cases of the like kind in medicine, such for example, as that where the cramp and sleep produces atonia. People who have wounds or old ulcers feel, on a change of weather a contraction and burning in those parts; and why should not such affections take place in animals.(4)

All those grounds taken together will be sufficient, in my opinion, to explain why horses and asses rub themselves, shake their heads, and snuff the air by turning up their noses; why asses bray much, and jump about, why cattle scrape up the earth, and stamp with their feet; and why swine, though not hungry, eat greedily, and dig up the earth with their snouts. The restlessness, running about, scraping with their feet, and eating grass among dogs; and moles continually throwing up the earth, can all be deduced from the same; as well as cats dressing themselves.

I have remarked that cocks crow at every change of the weather, besides at the usual time. They as

well as pigeons hasten to their places of shelter, in order to be secured against the rain, the approach of which they must be sensible of, by the continual weight of the atmosphere.(5)

The cause of fowls, pigeons, quails, and other birds, washing themselves, appears to me to be a certain heat or itching which they wish by these means to remove.(6)

Swallows, in all probability, take a low flight on the approach of rainy weather, because the electric atmosphere is too heavy for them, and because they have not sufficient strength to mount above it. But cranes, as being stronger birds, employ all their strength to rise above it, and therefore fly so high.(7)

I have remarked in ravens, that their croaking, unless when they smell carrion, proceeds from fear. They observe perhaps by the atmosphere still becoming heavier, that a storm highly disagreeable to them will soon take place, and therefore they croak, and attach themselves to trees; and when they are startled by any thing uncommon, they take a high flight making a loud cry. They easily discover their persecutors among men, and always cry with a loud noise as long as they think themselves pursued by them.(8)

That jack-daws, on the approach of rainy weather, flap their wings, and pick their feathers with their bills, may be explained partly by an unpleasant sensation before rain, and partly from the state of the atmosphere.(9)

To the before-mentioned itching or burning sensation, I refer the bathing and plunging of water-fowl. That the birds of the forest should hasten to their nests is very natural as from the state of the atmosphere they must apprehend rain.(10)

The crying of peacocks, except at pairing time, appears to be a phenomenon analogous to the crowing of cocks; I have often remarked it on a change of weather, and often even on a change of wind.(11)

That storks and cranes place their bills under their wings, is a phenomenon also remarked among domestic fowls when they fly to their roosts to secure themselves against rain,

Their pecking their breasts seems to signify an itching sensation in that part of their bodies.(12)

The croaking of the male green or tree frog seems to denote an unpleasant sensation, for in fine weather I never heard them send forth the smallest cry. But the appearance of toads implies a pleasant sensation, as these animals are so fond of living in dirt.(13)

Ants labour with great diligence, and bees hasten home, and do not fly far from their hives, because they follow their instinct. The former endeavour to complete their habitations and secure themselves against rain, and perhaps to lay up provisions for the rainy season: the latter hasten home to their hives, and fly no more abroad, because the wet would impede them in their flight and labour.

Gnats (cenops) come into houses to secure themselves from rain, which would impede their flight, and there they attach themselves to the legs, to procure that nourishment which is denied them without.

The increased biting of fleas I cannot explain, as the natural history of these insects is as yet too obscure.

Earth worms creep from their holes through instinct, as they can move themselves forward only upon earth that is slippery.(14)

A presentation of storms I have observed only among the perfect of the Mammalia, and as yet but among two, viz. man and the dog. Both these seem to have a sense of the increased electricity of the atmosphere. It appears in general that the more imperfect animals remark only the approach of dry weather, the more perfect the approach of rain; and the most perfect the approach of storms. All animals, perhaps, with their external senses, and all plants by their organs, are sensible of the variations of the weather: but plants are not here my object, and it is not necessary to prove the influence of the weather on them, as it is sufficiently apparent to every observer. Here I allude only to the external expression of internal sensations, as may be seen by the adduced instances; else one might consider the shutting and expanding of

many plants as foreboding variations of the weather.

The dog on the approach of rainy weather, expresses signs of uneasiness; scratches himself, because the fleas then bite him with more violence; digs up the earth with his feet, runs round, and eats grass: he is accustomed however to do the latter when he is very hot, perhaps to cool himself, and in general a storm follows soon after. Before a storm he evaporates more strongly, so that his smell becomes intolerable; he creeps in a dejected manner to his master, and lies quiet. The cat also seems to have this in common with the dog, that she creeps to her master also on the approach of a storm. But all these phenomena require a further explanation.

The most perfect of all animals, man is on the approach of storms only subject to unpleasant sensations; but these must teach him, in the most striking manner, that his spiritual part, even though it disengages itself so much from oppressive cares, is immediately connected here below with a sluggish body, which frequently exercises tyrannic sway over the soul. Men in a sound state of health are subjected on the approach of stormy weather, to a heaviness of body, and mind, a want of capacity to perform their usual occupations, a yawning and relaxation, which are highly disagreeable. These are often accompanied with a sensation of heat. All these phenomena appear in some more, and in others less, and in some do not take place at all, but the last case happens very rarely. Sick persons, or those whose juices are corrupted, experience besides the above, an itching in those parts of the body which are covered; and many who have old wounds, ulcers, and the like, have in these uncommon sensations. Many of these may be ascribed to perspiration checked by the great heat; though as Weikard, a philosophic physician asserts, the want of electric matter in the body may have some share in them also.

When stormy weather happens in winter, these sensations, as well as the before-mentioned presentation of animals, do not take place; at least no

one has ever observed them. This in all probability, arises from the influence of the season.

I must conclude this essay with requesting, that what I have here said may be considered, as it really is, an hypothetic explanation of well known facts.

Some Observations on the foregoing Pages.

(1) The action of flying has a constant tendency to cause birds to ascend, therefore unless counteracted by the disposition to remain at a certain height, a long continuance of flight will make birds arrive at that height where their specific gravity and expance are most equally ballanced, and they fly with the greatest ease. This is probably the reason that in fine weather when larks are not induced to descend by showers, that they ascend to great heights in the air.

(2) The frogs (*rana temporaria*) of the ditches of Ireland, never I believe croak but in the early spring, principally in the evenings, when warm and moist, or it might be said alone when the wind is southerly.

(3) As it is well known that the hygrometer indicates a considerable moisture being in the air before rain actually falls, may not birds feel this, and prepare their feathers accordingly in expectation of rain? Water-fowl may be set to wash and dress themselves at any time, by sprinkling a little water on them.

(4) It is a well known fact that when hot moist weather (or what is commonly called sultry) prevails, insects are then most active, consequently give cattle on which they feed most trouble. But I cannot deny altogether that cattle may feel some influence of this weather on their own bodies, as we know rheumatic pains are during the damp weather which precedes rain more acutely felt.

(5) Pea-fowl like geese are accustomed to cry on hearing any noise, and during a thunder storm the Peacock never ceases to cry.

(6) Most birds are troubled very much with Pediculi, and which either washing or tossing among their feathers cures them of in some degree. Buff-

son mentions that young pheasants soon become diseased and die when they have not an opportunity of cleaning themselves among sand.

(7) Swallows in all probability take their flight high or low according as the insects fly high or low. But cranes, and indeed all birds in their migratory excursions rise to a considerable height where they are less disturbed in all probability by eddy winds.

(8) The raven has a great variety of cries expressive of love, anger or fear; but as they remain paired, the most common is the call for its associate; when a raven sits upon the decaying branch of a tree (its most particular choice) uttering its hoarse monotonous notes, it is the call of love, not of fear. Anger or fear is expressed much seldomer, and in a much quicker and sharper tone.

(9) See Ob. 3.

(10) See Ob. 3 and 6.

(11) See Ob. 5.

(12) It is the constant practice of birds to sleep with their heads under their wings, it keeps that extremity warm during the cold nights, requires less constant action of the muscles than when extended, and making their centre of gravity very different, enables them to sit on the perch with less exertion of their feet to hold fast.

(13) Toads make their appearance perhaps oftener in moist than in dry weather, for the same reason that snails and earth worms do, because the moisture of their skins is not so soon exhaled.

(14) See Ob. 13.

T.

To the Editor of the Belfast Magazine.

"To bring empiricism of any description under the lash of ridicule is one way of establishing the credit of legitimate science—therefore he who laughs successfully at quackery, deserves the thanks of society.

Critical Review of "Corry's detector of Quackery."

SIR,

A FEW years ago many persons, with good intentions and a perseverance that did them infinite honour, both by their writings and their conversation, endeavoured to obtain, from

the legislature, such arrangements, with regard to the distilleries, as would have placed whiskey in some measure out of the reach of the common people, and thereby removed from them a temptation to beggar their families and to plunder the public. Amongst these real patriots the late Edward Tighe stood conspicuously forward; his letters, signed Melantius, contain a strong appeal to the feelings of those in power, and abound with irresistible arguments in favour of the regulations, which he suggested should be imposed upon the distillation of whiskey, but his reasonings, and those of his benevolent coadjutors were disregarded, and whether from inactivity or despair, the subject has since that period lain dormant, and the poor have continued the victims of a source of revenue, abundant, it must be confessed, but springing, as it does from the vices and the diseases of the lower classes, certainly not to be considered either politic or humane.

But the necessities of taxation, not content with poisoning the poor, contrived another expedient to raise money out of the vitals of the middle classes, through the medium of *Quack medicines*. Under the privilege of patents, and the sanction of degrees, obtained from a Scotch university of *easy virtue* quack doctors in the nineteenth century, and at a period when genuine medical science has arrived at a considerable degree of essential perfection, have been enabled to amass fortunes superior to any ever realized by the regular practitioner, who, under the discipline of a liberal education, devoted his youth to the study of medicine and his maturity to its practice.

The follies of a people are a fair object of taxation, if every woman who daubs her face with rouge, or her neck with pearl powder, was to pay a tribute to the state, a great revenue would be created, and no mischief would accrue to the individual; but the health of a nation is not to be trifled with; it should be watched over by government, with unceasing solicitude, nor should quacks be permitted to disseminate their nostrums with impunity, to the utter destruction of that first and most invaluable blessing.

Doctor Brodum has written a book entitled the Guide to old Age, for the *benevolent* purpose of prolonging the lives of his fellow creatures, and of promoting the sale of his *Nervous Cordial and Botanical Syrup*. As these medicines are in very high repute, the public have certainly a right to know *who their benefactor is, and of what his cordial and syrup are composed*; the first part of this information I am enabled to give them from Corry's Detector of Quackery, a publication which has gone through many editions; the latter portion I am unable to afford, but I am certain some of your young medical Correspondents are fully competent to impart it from an actual analysis of those detestable nostrums, and I trust they will, through the medium of your widely extended work, give it speedily to the deluded victims, who, under the idea of renovating the decays of nature, are absolutely hurrying on her extinction, by the *abuse of stimulants*, which if their nature and powers were ascertained, would appal the most determined drug-taker that ever swallowed an electuary.

Dr. Brodum is a German Jew. He attended Dr. Bossy in the quality of a footman, when that benignant sage came over to enlighten the eyes of the English, and with him made the tour of England; having in the course of his attendance obtained the knowledge of several medical terms, this enterprising lacquey commenced doctor himself. Either avarice or philanthropy induced him to give up shaving and coat-brushing for the more elegant art of preparing the *nervous cordial and botanical syrup*, the talisman, however, which completed the transmutation of a foot boy into a physician, was the diploma which the *disinterested* professors in the Marischal college of Aberdeen sent to this enterprising Esculapius, *disinterested, I will call them*, for surely, as Pangloss observes, they could not have been influenced by the consideration of *one pound thirteen shillings, and three pence three farthings*, the exact sum which that cordial Doctor declares he paid the learned body, as a compensation for his degree. Soon after the commence-

ment of Brodum's medical career, he found a powerful auxiliary in the person of the late quack Doctor Freeman's widow, his union to this sapient female contributed much to his *physical knowledge*, and if she proves a fruitful vine, their illustrious progeny, by a timely initiation into the arcana of medical imposture, may be able to supply all the *dupes* and *fools* in Europe with *remedies for every disease*. Having travelled through different parts of England, he at length resolved to become a resident in London where he published his *guide to old age*, which, *he says*, has already passed through fifty editions. The compiler of "literary memoirs of living authors," calls him, "one of those empirics in physic, and literary puffers, whose machinations are gulphs to the current of life," but surely this is illiberal; if a Roman who saved the life of a citizen was considered as a benefactor to the state, how much more should Brodum and Solomon be esteemed, who have each saved their tens of thousands! Statues should be erected to these good men, and placed as ornaments to the front of Newgate; one on the right hand, and one on the left of that awful spot, where so many youthful heroes take their flight to the world unknown; the victim of vice could then moralize with his last breath on the efficacy of nostrums, while he acknowledged that the promise of *renovated health* had induced him to continue his career of depravity, and to wander through the haunts of impurity and disease, till excess exhausted his constitution, and pernicious habits drove him to an open violation of the laws of that society, which had cast him off like a detested sin."

This detail has been entered into for the sincere purpose of deterring the ignorant or the hypochondriac from the use of nostrums fatal to health; if you consider it of sufficient moment to the community to insert it, I will furnish you with more authentic and important information, and trust you will receive from other quarters an account of the component parts of the quack medicines, which I imagine could be ascertained

with little trouble, by any person moderately skilled in chemistry; it is an enquiry well worthy the attention of the chemical professor of Trinity College or of the Dublin Society. Yours M.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

THE following address was handed to the commanding officer of a district in the south of Ireland, just after the village in which the writer lived, had been in the hands of the insurgents for several days in the year 1798, when the people surrendered their arms, and returned to peaceable conduct. The sentiments appear to be extremely just, and in my view are deserving of preservation in your miscellany. They have a tendency to remove prejudices, and to show, that at least, the people should not be branded as indiscriminately ferocious.

A——S—— *begs leave to address Col. — on a subject that is of vast importance, as he conceives, to the general weal; the preservation of the people. He has seen with great anxiety old distinctions of religious names revived. He believes that there does not exist that dark spirit of persecution among the people which is attributed to them; a spirit of retaliation may be for real or imagined injuries. Can we blame the trodden worm? It is said that they had formed a conspiracy for a general massacre: no such disposition was apparent these two days that we of this town were entirely in their power. Why did they not proceed then to a massacre? Why did they not revenge the injuries they said they had received? They spared to whip one man who they said was an informer. They forbore to whip the soldiers' wives when the cruel retaliation was suggested by the women of the town. They offered no injury to the officers' wives in my house, nor to the sick soldier and two officers' servants with me. He believes that no such conspiracy exists, and that it is conceived only in the fears of men of property, who are alarmed at the thought of

*The name is suppressed from decency to the writer, that he may not be unnecessarily obtruded on the public.

C

losing it. He believes that by mild treatment these people may be made useful to us, and happy to themselves. They have found the folly of resistance, they are used to live low, "*facilem victu per secula gentem.*" Let them live, and live comfortably; they will not aspire higher; they will be hands and feet to us. Indeed all orders and classes of society want reformation. If the money laid out on spacious buildings, cultivating fine gardens and pleasure grounds, were some of it expended on cultivating the morals of the people, what a happy harvest of blessings would it not produce to the cultivators? If the rich did not insult the poor by their wanton extravagance and riot, the two orders of society would coalesce, and religious distinctions would not be so much as thought of."

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

OBSERVATIONS WHICH OCCURRED DURING A SHORT TOUR.

BUSINESS called me to Dublin lately. To a reflecting mind, that city presents many subjects for contemplation and reflection. Dublin has had its share of the bankruptcies, which have afflicted the empire at large, and the mutual inquiry on two friends meeting was commonly, what bankruptcies have appeared this morning? Merchants high and low, tanners, hotel-keepers &c. &c. filled the list. But few in accounting for the failures mounted up to the source, but attributed them to some local cause, with which their limited sphere of knowledge brought them into acquaintance. Some attributed them to lowering the duty on whiskey, and the consequent loss to the holders of whiskey and rum. With others an extension of the tanning trade had originated all those distressing evils. How the hotel-keepers failed, I heard no particular solution beyond the general one, I fear too common to others, bad management, improvident expenditure, and living above income. But to save the trouble of thinking, there was one sweeping cause assigned, on which many deemed themselves competent to decide, and by the aid of which they very

comfortably threw the blame off themselves and their neighbours, and constituted an undefined charge. The union caused all the mischief. If they were asked how the union operated to produce such dismal effect, they were too much irritated by the presumed ignorance or insolence of the inquirer to think him worthy of an answer. But if they had deigned to enter into argument, perhaps the position would not have been very tenable. Failures in England and also in other parts of Ireland, confessedly not injured by the union, have not been less frequent. Dublin may have lost some of the demand for articles of luxury from the less general residence of the higher classes. But what then? Are those placed at the top of Burke's "Corinthian capital of polished society," the only or the chief supporters of trade, or the wealth and prosperity of a nation? No. Not one of these lends a hand to help to lift the overloaded waggon out of the mire, while the bulk of the people, instead of giving effectual assistance to extricate trade, are clamorous in vain, calling on Jupiter to lift the unwieldy machine out of the supposed gulph, which the union has occasioned. But the call will be in vain. In many parts of Ireland, we require to be fortified in habits of frugality, industry, and an economical husbanding of our resources. The fact is, the higher classes of society looking only to themselves, and to their fancied importance have spread the doctrine, that they essentially support the power of a nation, and the bulk of the people have too indolently reposed on the assertion, and gratuitously adopted the error, the offspring of overweening conceit in the first promulgators, and credulously adopted by their retainers, and dependents, who as trades people and shopkeepers appear to profit by them. But Adam Smith has clearly demonstrated, that the wealth of a nation is not to be estimated by the annual expenses of the luxurious classes, but by the funds destined to support labour and encourage industry, or in other words, by the capital employed in trade and agriculture. The nobleman who spends £10,000 a year,

only benefits the nation by the profit on the articles of his consumption, while the merchant or manufacturer who employs a like sum in trade, affords sinews to industry, and reserves his capital to produce future benefit in succeeding years. The funds of luxury are dissipated, but the funds of industry remain.

But as I was dissatisfied with the reasons assigned as the cause of bankruptcies, it is fitting to give my theory, which I shall endeavour to do in a few words, and trace the causes which led to the bankruptcies so general throughout Great Britain and Ireland. The system of commercial warfare of which the decrees of Bonaparte and the British orders in council formed the most prominent parts, unsettled trade, and forced capital out of its usual channels. The enterprize of merchants turned this capital into hazardous speculation, and caused trade to resemble the cast of a die, or the revolution of the lottery wheel. In the beginning prizes turned up in the lottery of speculation. Thus encouraged, the adventurers went on; latterly blanks have mostly succeeded; or in plain language, at the beginning articles of importation mostly rose, and consequently purchasers gained; and latterly by the partial and occasional uncertain supplies received from the Baltic and America, merchandize rapidly fell in value to the loss of the holders. An over-extended issue of paper currency gave increased facility to this spirit of speculation. To these causes we may add an increased expenditure unsupported by adequate profits, and an unwillingness to accommodate themselves to the pressure and difficulties of the times. Those conjoint causes will probably account for the numerous insolvencies on general principles, and give a clue which if followed up, will bring out of the labyrinth, and lead back to sound commercial policy, by retracing the errors, which have produced the present alarming and almost unexampled difficulties, to which the mercantile world has been exposed.

Before I dismiss this sketch of Dublin, let me allude to the disgusting scenes of drunkenness so shamefully

prevalent among the poorer classes. Walking through the streets in an evening, particularly on a Saturday, the spectacles of wretchedness and intoxication were so frequently to be met, as to raise mournful reflections on the depraved state of manners, and that shamelessness which characterized many females,

"Whose tattered garments spoke a varied wretchedness."

In passing through Bishop-street, I heard one of them express in a significant and appropriate slang, characteristic of Dublin manners in the lower classes, addressing herself to one of her miserable companions, "Sure! I have been on the battery since last night." Her countenance bore the blazing marks of intemperance and riot, "the human face divine," was disfigured, and her mind utterly perverted, altogether exhibiting a miserable spectacle, and a personification of vice in its most hideous form. Such exhibitions are lamentably frequent; I never saw them more common in Dublin.

Some of the old trading streets struck me as in a state of great decay, but trade has moved to the eastward, and Westmoreland-street, College-green, Grafton-street, &c. surpass the former splendor of Bride-street, Skinner row, &c. now rapidly declining.

I proceeded through some parts of the country in Leinster, and here also I had food for contemplation. I did not go merely to see the face of the country, and therefore I leave to others, a description of the beauties which it presented. I looked more to the cabins of the poor than to the vaunted improvements of the rich. I confess I am not disposed to view with admiration those costly displays of wealth which are sometimes misnamed the beauties of nature, but in my view they scarcely deserve that name; for a showy plantation of trees is as much an effort of art, as a modern costly edifice. Some of my companions went to view an extensive demesne of this kind, and were highly delighted with the scenery. I brought back my recollection to the owner, a man now dead, who returned some years ago loaded with spoils

and enriched by his artifices as a commissary. He returns to his native country, purchases all the land he can find on sale in his vicinity, and thus vests the produce of all the blood and sinews he has been the means of wasting, and like a second William Rufus on a small scale drives off the poor from the cottages to make way for his improvements. Yet those who call themselves the lovers of nature and simplicity delight in those prospects without carrying their minds back to their origin.

"Here's the smell of blood still: all the perfumes of Arabia will not sweeten it."

SHAKESPEARE.

There is something more interesting to the friend of philanthropy to behold the cottages of the poor, even though to a fastidious eye they should appear mean, and be deficient in neatness rather than the ostentatious splendor which is too frequently purchased by dispossessing the poor of those habitations, which though not picturesque or *fitting to show as a picture*, are nevertheless necessary for their accommodation.

"The man of wealth and pride,
Takes up a space, that many poor supply'd,
Space for his lake, his park's extended bounds,

Space for his horses, equipage and bounds."

In the course of my tour I have seen gentlemen's seats so closely placed together, that not a cabin was to be seen for a considerable distance at which to inquire the road. In my view there is in such a state of a country a moral deformity which no beauty of prospect can compensate. Some years ago, after traversing the bleak hills near Bushmills in the county of Antrim, I shortly afterwards passed through the rich country of Meath, decorated by grand seats and embellished by art. I contrasted the situation of the two countries. Of Meath I might say in the language of Goldsmith.

"Small is the bliss, that sense alone bestows,

In florid beauty, groves and fields appear,

Man seems the only growth, that dwindles here."

While the hardy, and comparatively independent peasantry of Antrim, with a more barren soil, and a bleak si-

tuation, enjoyed many comforts of which the miserable cottager of Meath had no notion. The one burned straw, as a poor substitute for fuel, while his mountains afforded turf to the more independent little farmer of Ulster. The one was labourer to a great man, and the other had a small farm, by which he supported his family, and if by such a mode of parcelling out land, he did not make the utmost farthing of his ground, he at least had more comfort. Like the Swiss, he had valuable enjoyments.

"Yet still, even here, content can spread a charm,

Redress the clime, and all its rage disarm.
Though poor the peasant's hut, his feasts though small,

He sees his little lot, the lot of all.

But calm, and bred in ignorance and toil,
Each wish contracting fits him to the soil.
Cheerful at morn he wakes from short repose,

Breathes the keen air, and carols as he goes;

At night returning, every labour sped,
He sits him down the monarch of a shed,
Smiles by his cheerful fire, and round surveys

His children's looks, that brighten at the blaze:

While his lov'd partner boastful of her hoard,

Displays the cleanly platter on the board."

Such a sight has more charms in my eyes, than the richest, or most highly ornamented demesne I have ever beheld. I have sometimes inquired into the cause of this fondness for prospect, and I attributed it to the love for pleasure very common in the youthful mind. I do not wish altogether to repress this fondness for pleasure, but it is necessary to keep it within bounds, that we may not be carried away by it. Without being a cynic it may be allowed to preach up a moderation in the *cruise after pleasure*, lest the very object in view be missed, and by falling into the error noticed by Young, disappointment finally succeed to a too highly raised expectation of pleasure.

"Self-flattered, inexperienced, high in hope,

When young with sanguine cheer, and streamers gay,

We cut our cable, launch into the world,
And fondly dream each wind and star our friend."

Let us accustom ourselves accurately to examine into the causes of our sensations, and before we suffer ourselves to be carried away by our first impressions, let us see if the things we admire, are really worth what they cost. Habits of reflection early adopted, and uniformly resorted to, strengthen the mind, and enable it to form a judgment with precision.

My view is not to give a regular essay, or a studied account of a tour. If I succeed in conveying an impression of my feelings during my late journey, and afford some materials to assist thought in reflecting minds, my object is answered. K.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

AGENERAL AND COMPARATIVE VIEW OF INSTITUTIONS, OR SCHOOLS FOR THE RELIEF OF THE INDUSTRIOUS BLIND.

LIVERPOOL.

Instituted as an Asylum, 1791, opened as a School, 1800.

PUPILS.

*Their number when admitted, &c.
Boarders or not, &c.*

SEVENTY-EIGHT, generally exceed seventy, and are to be increased to one hundred, more males than females. Since the commencement in 1791, two hundred and forty one persons have been received.

Age...Admitted at twelve, and not after forty-five (except musical pupils who may be taken in at eight, and above forty five, if they have received any previous instruction) are preferred between twelve and eighteen.

Not dieted, or lodged, but will be when the new buildings shall be completed. Have some allowance of provisions, and receive weekly money or wages, part of which in general is paid by friends or parishes.

A few supported entirely by their friends, are allowed to avail themselves of the benefits of the institution.

Hours of working, from six, morning in summer, and eight o'clock in winter, till six in summer, and five in winter, viz. two hours being allowed for meals.

Trades, Manufactures, Machinery.

Spinning, hamper and basket making, plaiting of sash line, and window cord,

weaving of worsted rugs, for hearths and carriages, and floor cloths, sacking, making sacks, list shoes, Foot-bears, points and gaskets from old ropes; sheeting, huckaback, tea-rugs, tarred and untarred lobby cloths.

Music... And to tune, quill, string and repair instruments, also to teach music, viz. on the organ and harpsichord (other instruments would rather tend to induce vagrant habits.)

Machinery... Besides looms and spinning wheels, a peculiar platting machine, and weaving geers for lobby cloths.

Most of the trades can be learned in two or three years, and several of them by the same person.

Income, Funds, and rate of Contribution.

| | 1807. | £. | s. | d. |
|---|-------|----|-----|----|
| Annual subscriptions | 1080 | 9 | 0 | |
| Donations and benefactions | 686 | 1 | 0 | |
| Legacies | 514 | 1 | 0 | |
| Found in poor-boxes | 218 | 11 | 8½ | |
| Allowances from parishes | 419 | 10 | 7 | |
| Interest on public securities and money in bank | 152 | 13 | 11 | |
| Gross product of goods manufactured and sold | 1372 | 2 | 5 | |
| Arrears and debts | 224 | 19 | 5½ | |
| | 4699 | 13 | 1 | |
| Balance on hand, at the end of last year | 2402 | 18 | 10½ | |
| | £7102 | 11 | 11½ | |

Gross value of goods manufactured, sold, and unsold 1542 19 5
Possess £2000 stock, three per cents.

Rate of contributions... Subscriptions from one to three guineas, many half a guinea or less. Donations few above £100. Legacies, many very large, as £1000.

Expenditure.

| | 1807. | £. | s. | d. |
|---|-------|----|-----|----|
| For new buildings | 1596 | 1 | 6 | |
| Wages to pupils and teachers | 832 | 2 | 5 | |
| Six music masters, repairing instruments, music, &c. | 151 | 5 | 5 | |
| Provisions for the pupils, and used in the house | 652 | 10 | 4 | |
| Raw materials | 979 | 10 | 11½ | |
| Machinery | 246 | 1 | 0 | |
| Rewards to pupils | 121 | 1 | 11½ | |
| Articles for their use | 37 | 4 | 2 | |
| Salaries | 185 | 18 | 0 | |
| Coals, candles, printing, advertising, stamps, books, portorage, cartage, &c. | 144 | 10 | 9½ | |
| | 4946 | 6 | 6½ | |
| Balance on hand | 2156 | 5 | 5 | |
| | £7102 | 11 | 11½ | |

Officers, Teachers, &c.

A superintendant at one hundred guineas per annum. His wife and

son assist him, and with a servant have about forty five pounds. These with a weaver and a basket maker, are always on the premises.

Non resident, a secretary (who is also chaplain) at thirty one pound ten shillings; a barber at six pounds six shillings, and an indefinite number of teachers as occasion may require.

The senior pupils, give some instruction to the juniors.

Government of the School.

Vested in a president, vice president, and committee of eighteen. Two auditors, and four visitors, of whom the secretary is one.

Committee meets quarterly; the visitors oftener, at their option. On them devolves the immediate inspection of the school.

All subscribers at whatever rate, have the same privileges.

Miscellaneous Notices.

When the pupils shall be boarded, *cloathing* will then become the principal additional expense. The weekly allowance will be in a great measure withdrawn. The superintendant has a general knowledge of the trades, but this is not indispensable, as there must always be persons, having charge of particular departments. He has no share in the government of the school, nor is he a subscriber.

Pupils in *extreme indigence*, are rather to be declined, as such cannot afterwards, profit by the instructions they may receive.

Questions, touching the degree, &c. of blindness, and whether durable or not, as also regarding the previous habits, pursuits, connections and means of subsistence of applicants, are to be answered prior to admission. Printed forms to be had at the school.

EDINBURGH.

Instituted 1795, 96.

PUPILS.

Numbers when Admitted, &c.

Thirty-nine viz. twenty seven males, twelve females.

Age...Admitted at thirteen or fourteen.

Clothed, but not dieted or lodged. The males *only* work at the asylum, the women spinning in their own houses. The males attend from seven o'clock in the morning in summer,

and eight in winter, till six in the evening, an hour allowed for dinner. They receive a weekly allowance, and wages in proportion to their industry, some earn half a guinea per week.

Trades, Manufactures, Machinery.

Making mattresses of hair, wool and straw, mats of white and brown rope for kitchen doors, and of hair for upper stories, baskets, cleaves, cradles, onion and other nets, picking oakum, some have learned to weave.

No music taught, there being no occasion for organists in Scotland, but if a boy discovers great musical talent, something will be allowed to improve it.

Use no particular machinery.

Income, Funds, and rate of Contribution.

| | 1807. | £. | s. | d. |
|--|-------|-------|----|----|
| Annual subscriptions | | 271 | 2 | 0 |
| Donations | | 167 | 16 | 10 |
| Cash in poor-boxes, and at annual sermons | | 60 | 3 | 8 |
| Interest on securities, and on money in bank | | 132 | 18 | 1 |
| Gross product of goods manufactured and sold | | 1017 | 5 | 7 |
| | | 1649 | 6 | 2 |
| Value of goods on hand | | 397 | 16 | 1 |
| Cash due for goods | | 79 | 13 | 5 |
| | | £2126 | 15 | 8 |

| | | | |
|--|------|----|---|
| Gross value of goods manufactured, sold and unsold | 1494 | 15 | 1 |
| Nett profit on the labour | 283 | 11 | 7 |

Possess £-000, three per cent. cons. at 6 per cent. £3000, and £435 in the hands of the banker.

Rate of contributions...Subscriptions, none above three guineas, many half a guinea. Donations, none above fifty guineas.

Expenditure.

| | 1807. | £. | s. | d. |
|--|-------|-------|----|----|
| Raw materials | | 888 | 14 | 0 |
| Wages and cloaths to the blind and overseers | | 603 | 9 | 4 |
| Candles, coals, printing and sundries | | 81 | 9 | 4 |
| Salary and allowances to superintendants | | 58 | 13 | 8 |
| Expenses on sale of old, and purchase of new asylum furniture, utensils, &c. | | 41 | 18 | 6 |
| Balance of goods on hand, and cash due as per state at the end of last year | | 322 | 9 | 6 |
| | | 1996 | 14 | 4 |
| Balance increase of stock. | | 130 | 1 | 4 |
| | | £2126 | 15 | 8 |

Officers, Teachers, &c.

A superintendant at fifty five pounds per annum, with coals and candles, and a porter with thirty one pounds ten shillings, and two pair of shoes, reside.

In the commencement they got an upholsterer, and a basketmaker, but now the pupils instruct each other, which they are found to do better than those who have their sight.

Government of the school.

Vested in a president, vice president, secretary, clerk, surgeon, two auditors, and twelve directors. Meet quarterly.

Subscribers are all members of the society, and occasionally chosen directors.

Miscellaneous Notices.

A new house was taken in 1806, in which it is intended that (in time) the women, as well as the men should work, but the pupils are not to be boarded, it being conceived that, in that case, there would be less stimulus to industry.

Weaving has been taught only in a few instances, and in general those trades which require machinery do not seem to have been introduced.

LONDON.

Instituted 1799.

PUPILS.*Numbers, when Admitted, &c.*

Forty nine, viz. thirty three males, sixteen females, commenced with fifteen males, and has in about eight years sent out twenty nine persons fully instructed, and capable of earning from seven to fifteen shillings per week.

Age...Admitted at twelve, preferred between twelve and eighteen, but not rejected, while the strength is unimpaired, and fingers flexible.

Dieted, lodged, clothed, and educated. A day-school is opened contiguous, but special care is required in selecting those who attend it, as they must associate with the boarders.

Parishes and friends contribute something occasionally towards the support of pupils, to whom, on leaving the school, a portion of their earnings, and a set of tools are given.

Trades, Manufactures, Machinery, &c.

Fine and coarse thread, shoemaker's thread, window sash, and clothes line,

hampers, wicker baskets of various colours, rough and white bear mats for hearths and carriages, hemming, sewing, and getting up hose and body lineu, music.

Machinery...An apparatus for rendering intelligible the use and distinction of musical notes. And a platting machine, constructed purposely for the use of blind persons.

N.B. This is on a more simple principle than that in use at Liverpool.

Income, Funds, and rate of Contribution.

1807.

TRADE ACCOUNT.

| Articles sold and paid for at | £. | s. | d. |
|---|--------------|----------|----------|
| the school | 487 | 16 | 4 |
| Ditto ditto not paid | 81 | 0 | 9 |
| Ditto, manufactured, unsold | 221 | 10 | 0 |
| Raw materials unmanufactured | 126 | 16 | 0 |
| Implements valued at | 69 | 8 | 4 |
| Linen woven from yarn, spun at the school | 28 | 10 | 0 |
| | <u>£1015</u> | <u>1</u> | <u>5</u> |

ACCOUNT FOR GENERAL PURPOSES.

| | | | |
|---|--------------|----------|----------|
| Legacies and donations above twenty guineas | 1652 | 10 | 0 |
| Donations under do. | 247 | 2 | 6 |
| Annual subscriptions under do. | 1267 | 15 | 0 |
| Dividends on stock, interest on India bonds | 192 | 3 | 8 |
| Rent from adjacent premises | 47 | 10 | 0 |
| Allowances from parishes | 83 | 19 | 0 |
| | <u>£1491</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>2</u> |

| | | | |
|--|-----|---|---|
| Gross value of goods manufactured, sold and unsold | 790 | 7 | 1 |
| Profit on the labour | 38+ | 4 | 5 |

Possess £1088, 13, 9, 3 per cent. cons. and four India bonds of £100 each.

Rate of contributions...Subscriptions from one to two guineas, many from five to ten. Donations, few (except to the building fund) above fifty pound. Legacies, few above five hundred.

Expenditure.

1807.

TRADE ACCOUNT.

| Raw materials for manufacture | £. | s. | d. |
|--|--------------|-----------|----------|
| Salaries and wages to four masters, and one mistress | 194 | 3 | 6 |
| Implements of trade and repairs | 66 | 11 | 8 |
| Paid former pupils for sash line | 21 | 19 | 6 |
| Weaving and bleaching cloth | 6 | 10 | 11 |
| | <u>630</u> | <u>17</u> | <u>2</u> |
| Balance, profit on trade | 384 | 4 | 5 |
| | <u>£1015</u> | <u>1</u> | <u>5</u> |

ACCOUNT FOR GENERAL PURPOSES.

| | £ | s. | d. |
|--|-------|----|----|
| Provisions | 683 | 13 | 6 |
| Coals, candles, washing, &c. | 192 | 19 | 10 |
| Rent and taxes | 205 | 11 | 7 |
| Salaries and wages | 320 | 6 | 0 |
| Medicines | 29 | 10 | 3 |
| Cloathing, linen and shoes | 228 | 14 | 0 |
| Furniture | 143 | 19 | 11 |
| Repairs and alterations | 124 | 2 | 1 |
| Stationary, printing, and advertisements | 102 | 8 | 2 |
| Stamps, postage, poundage, duty, &c. | 103 | 13 | 7 |
| Gratuities to pupils, and tools given them | 51 | 16 | 8 |
| | 2191 | 15 | 7 |
| Balance on hand | 1299 | 4 | 7 |
| | £3491 | 0 | 2 |

Total balance in favour of the institution, viz.

| | | | |
|-----------------|------|---|----|
| Profit on trade | 384 | 4 | 3 |
| General balance | 1299 | 4 | 7 |
| | 1683 | 8 | 10 |

Officers, Teachers, &c.

Housekeeper, superintendant, and menial servants reside.

Whether the following do or not, does not appear, viz. Four masters, one mistress, and the secretary.

It is intended to retain permanently some of the best qualified pupils to instruct the others, and keep up the credit of the school.

Government of the School.

Vested in a president, eight vice presidents, a treasurer and a committee of twenty four, who meet quarterly. A sub committee inspects and arranges the school, and meets oftener. Three visitors are elected half yearly by the committee.

Three auditors elected annually. Trustees elected annually, in whose names investments in the funds are made.

General meetings three times a year.

To constitute a member of the committee, an annual subscription of two guineas is required, and twenty guineas at once, or within one year, to make a governor for life.

Miscellaneous Notices.

Not designed for persons in extreme indigence, for the reasons assigned at Liverpool. Therefore an obligation is required on the part of some respectable house-keeper, in or near London, to take out the pupil when instructed, or delay the burial charges in the

event of death. When any allowance is given by parishes or friends, a similar guarantee for the regular payment thereof is expected. Printed forms of interrogatories to be answered previous to admission, are also kept here.

An enlargement of the institution is in contemplation, and a building fund accumulating.

BRISTOL.

Instituted 1794, remained in obscurity till 1802.

PUPILS.

Numbers, when Admitted, &c.

Twenty nine, viz. nineteen males, ten females, commenced in 1794, with three males, and three females.

Age...Admitted between twelve and thirty, only. Females board in the house with the matron, but this is an arrangement of their own, without expense to the charity. Males boarded by the charity abroad. Allowed three-pence per week at first, and wages increased according to their industry. Parishes and friends give some assistance. Pupils are clothed partly by endowments for the purpose.

Trades, Manufactures, Machinery, &c.

Baskets, cradles, bird cages, flower and work baskets of the finest kinds (some at a guinea each) table mats, shoe mats, cooper's tallies, spinning laces, huckaback, no music.

Machinery...Use plating machines.

Trades so soon learned that many double their wages within the year.

Income, Funds, and rate of contribution.

| | 1807. | £. | s. | d. |
|---|-------|----|----|----|
| Annual subscriptions | 352 | 10 | 0 | |
| Legacies and donations | 33 | 5 | 6 | |
| Found in poor boxes | 45 | 3 | 2 | |
| Gross product of goods manufactured, and sold | 1007 | 6 | 2 | |
| Interest and dividend on securities, &c. | 152 | 8 | 2 | |
| Allowances from parishes, and friends | 79 | 4 | 6 | |
| | 1069 | 17 | 5 | |
| Balance on hand at end of last year | 308 | 7 | 4 | |
| | £1378 | 4 | 9 | |

POSSESS 5000*l.* in three per cents.

Rate of contribution...Subscriptions one to two guineas, only two of five guineas. Donations, average ten pounds, one above one hundred pounds.

Expenditure.

1807.

| | £. | s. | d. |
|---|-------|----|----|
| Weekly wages, and cloathing to the blind . . . | 437 | 5 | 4 |
| Purchases of stock . . . | 249 | 10 | 0 |
| Advanced on account of parishes, and friends . . . | 85 | 19 | 2 |
| Two masters for their labour and instructions . . . | 159 | 15 | 8 |
| Superintendent, matron and servant . . . | 67 | 8 | 4 |
| Raw materials . . . | 567 | 7 | 0 |
| Furniture, insurance, stamps, printing, coals, candles, &c. . . | 97 | 2 | 0 |
| | 1657 | 8 | 3 |
| Balance in banker's hands . . . | 320 | 16 | 0 |
| | £1978 | 4 | 9 |

Officers, Teachers, &c.

A matron at twenty guineas per annum, with coals and candles, and a servant at six shillings per week, reside.

Two masters at one pound six shillings each, per week, and a secretary at forty guineas per annum.

The masters are mostly at work, and earn the amount of their wages, as the senior pupils, except in difficult cases, are competent to instruct new comers.

Government of the School.

Vested in a treasurer, and a committee of twenty six, and three auditors. Meet annually.

Miscellaneous Notices.

It is intended as the funds shall increase to board and lodge the pupils, to increase their number, and introduce other manufactures.

An idea is also entertained of rendering the institution an asylum for those aged blind who have no claim upon friends or parishes.

NORWICH.

One still in its infancy, on the plan of Liverpool.

The foregoing statement refers chiefly to the year 1807. The accounts for 1808, not being made up when the information was received, a few particulars are extracted from later correspondence, which prove the increasing interest the public take in these establishments. The various modes of making out their accounts, will account for the diversity to be observed, and some alterations in the manner of stating them, seemed ne-

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cessary to show the actual receipts in any one year, &c. This schedule will show that upwards of thirty varieties of handicraft can be performed without the aid of sight, and some other trades not mentioned, have and might be introduced, whether *one, more or which* should be attempted in any new establishment will depend much upon contingent and local circumstances. Some expenses may be saved, at least at first, as for music, secretary, &c. on the other hand there cannot be here any allowance from parishes, and probably very little from friends. To board them, as well for moral as other considerations, will probably be deemed most eligible, and in proportion it would seem that the cost would not be greater. When the pupils shall have acquired proficiency, they will no doubt equal those in Great Britain, who manufacture articles in no respect inferior in quality to what can elsewhere be purchased. But at first there must be much waste. For all these reasons, it would hardly be prudent even to begin without a considerable sum, suppose fifteen hundred pounds in hand, and a moral certainty of three hundred to five hundred annually in future. Premises must be extensive. Having space for pits to steep willows in, storage, &c. of easy access, and resorted to by genteel company. This is strongly inculcated by those who are conversant with such establishments.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

ON THE DISASTERS AND DEATHS OCCASIONED BY ACCIDENTS.

THAT fortune is changeable and life uncertain, we admit as an unquestionable truth, when speaking of our neighbours; but when nothing disturbs us we seldom seriously apply it to ourselves. It is when confounded by some dreadful spectacle, like that which occurred the other day, a few fields hence, that the humbled mortal becomes sincerely sensible of the presumption of calculating on another hour of existence.

A robust, healthful labourer, went out to assist the woodman in bringing to the ground a tree, which with all its ponderous weight, unexpectedly

descended and with one of its unwieldy branches literally rivetted him to the earth: this moment he displayed Herculean strength, the next lay crushed like a feeble insect; and the horror-breathing yells of his appalled companions alarmed the distant ear, ere his "sturdy stroke" had ceased to vibrate in it. While partaking of his homely meal a few minutes before, he had been consoling his wife with the prospect of more prosperous seasons enabling him to procure her richer fare; and flattering her vanity with the hope of a holiday dress, which he was to purchase her whenever payday came. And as he dandled his favourite child in that last hour of wake, he had been ruminating on the occupation that in future years would best suit its capacity to learn, and his circumstances to teach; and when the bell rang, he had set it down with an adieu on his countenance, and bade it be good till evening and he would bring it a nice new hobby-horse. Alas! long ere night shall that widowed wife, like the image of despondency, droop over his mangled frame. Mirthful to others the May-day holiday shall arrive, but find her wrapt in the weeds of mourning; and her last homely meal was a banquet in comparison of the sustenance she now anticipates. Never shall that fatherless boy, whose ignorance of his misfortune aggravates his mother's anguish, never shall he be taught a profitable employment, he must become a hireling before he can complete his allotted quota of labour, be upbraided by a rapacious task-master, who shall chastise him the more unmercifully that he has none to take his part; and when on Sunday, he shall vainly complain to his mother, she will tell him with a sigh how much more the rest of the family has last week endured. Meanwhile, when hardships shall compel her to "seek for shelter in even an humbler shed," he shall trip before her, and anxiously turn to inquire if the tree that overshades them resembles the one that crushed his poor father; while she shall press to her bosom the orphan now unborn and shudder at the reflection. As she passes the pitying rustics who escaped

when their friend fell, with melancholy pleasure shall she congratulate them on their safety, and implore providence to protect them all. With inexpressible anguish shall she look forward from the hill to the cemetery that encloses the dear deceased, and then revert her streaming eye on the grove that encircled the accursed elm. Wherefore was it planted? Or rather why cut down? it has smitten the shepherd, and if humanity interpose not, the sheep shall be scattered.

It is with extraordinary regret that we reflect on the numberless accidents that care and prudence might have prevented "yet strange the living lay it not to heart," so habitually as to be more wary in similar circumstances. We assist in extinguishing the flames of our neighbour's dwelling; but soon forget to remove combustible matter to a safe distance from our own fires; we relieve the cripple who became debilitated by attempting to lift or carry more than he was able, yet the first opportunity engage in enterprises of the same kind; and we shudder to hear of neglected children tottering into a pond or over a precipice, yet in a few hours permit our own wards to stroll at random as before. Of people perishing by mistaking poison for medicine and by presumptuously taking an immoderate quantity of a proper potion, the instances are infinite. Since the misfortunes of men's own making are always despised as well as pitied, the desire that every one feels of being esteemed by society might prevent him from injuring himself by his own misconduct, or if that motive be insufficient, the fear of offending the Author of his being certainly ought; for in what does the man who falls a sacrifice to his own temerity differ from him who commits suicide? Only in this, that the one's error is partly involuntary and the other's deliberate.

False principles in religion, or at least unfair conclusions drawn from just premises, have precipitated thousands to their destruction; who numbers every day needlessly endanger themselves through the persuasion that every man must live his appointed time! But if such persuasion could encourage its votary to descend from

the *Gabon cliff*, he would fatally find that his time was inevitably come. That "every bullet has its billet," is an article of the soldier's creed that has hurried to the field of Mars many a desperado, who would otherwise have sought and found security in the field of Ceres that he never returned to reap. It would not be difficult, however, to confute such enthusiasts on their own principles. Because heaven may have decreed that some good man must suffer a violent death, will they justify the ruffian who assassinates him? Or because it has determined that some ill-fated nation shall degenerate into slavery, will they assist the oppressor to accelerate its fall? Surely no. Then how can they argue against using those very exertions that for aught they know providence has decreed as the means of their escape? That we should use all lawful endeavours to preserve our own life and the lives of others, was the injunction of an assembly of divines, who were, notwithstanding, such rigid predeterminians, that they believed that God has foreordained whatsoever comes to pass. Were even miracles of mercy again to interpose, the prodigy of indiscretion has the least reason in the world to depend on them.

False courage too, giving the desperation of the maniac to him who wants the resolution of the hero, has involved in perils multitudes who might safely have effected their purpose. The solitary wanderer, who on the uninhabited heath perished in a wreath of spow, would have permitted his friends to escort him; and the more rash adventurer whom the rain-raised flood swept from the steps of the ford, would have waited till the water had subsided, had they both not either mistaken caution for cowardice themselves, or suspected that their acquaintance would. Mistaking foresight for timidity, the inconsiderate not kills himself to rest in approved security, till alarmed by impending ruin, like a bewildered man, half awake, he stumbles into the gulph from which he imagined himself receding; and the admiration with

which "hair-breadth escapes" are usually felicitated, has caused them to be sought for by many a bravo, whom the crowd, judging every enterprize foolishly planned that is unsuccessfully terminated, mocked under his mischances, and reproached for his temerity. The contempt of death is laudable only when safety would be prolonged at the expense of virtue; and hazarding life becomes criminal whenever nothing valuable can be attained by the exploit. The brave man, foreseeing possible exigencies will learn to swim; but will not put to sea in a storm. When an epidemick desolator rages round him, he will redouble his diligence to preserve his health; but will not forbear to visit the sufferers whenever he has a prospect of relieving them. On the verge of an intested wild he will dissuade his fellow travellers from proceeding till "holy light" shall be their safeguard; but if the banditti approach he will resolutely oppose it, while they who over-persuaded him to pursue his journey are pusillanimously for yielding their treasure. And if unavertable casualties overpower him, he endures poverty and pain with a fortitude that was never in alliance with affected courage.

Ballycarry,

O.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine,

THE Italian word *fonte* is marked in Veneroni's, Barvett's, and Altieri's Dictionaries as only of the masculine gender; and the primitive latin *fons* has ever, as far as I could learn, been considered as masculine. From which considerations, I hesitated not to charge Tasso with a solecism in making it feminine. But Veneroni, as I have since discovered, ranks it in his grammar amongst those nouns that are of either gender, although he has been deficient in that particular in his dictionary; so that Tasso may perhaps stand unimpeachable so far. It is only to be regretted that our Italian lexicographers are not more accurate. Nor is this the only inconsistency of Veneroni.

RICCIARDO.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

The following Prospectus has been published by a Society in London, and a subscription entered into to promote the benevolent purpose.

SOCIETY IN LONDON FOR THE DIFFUSION OF KNOWLEDGE, RESPECTING THE PUNISHMENT OF DEATH, AND THE IMPROVEMENT OF PRISON DISCIPLINE.

TRUE it is, that we have found by woful experience, that it is not frequent punishment that doth prevent like offences; those offences are often committed that are often punished: for the frequency of the punishment makes it so familiar that it is not feared. For example, what a lamentable case it is, to see so many christian men and women strangled on that cursed tree of the gallows, insomuch as if in a large field a man might see together all the Christians, that but in one year, throughout England, come to that untimely and ignominious death, if there were any spark of grace or charity in him, it would make his heart to bleed for pity and compassion.

"But the consideration of this preventing justice were worthy of the wisdom of parliament, and in the mean time expert and wise men to make preparation for the same, as the text saith, *ut benedicat eis dominus*. Blessed shall he be that layeth the first stone of the building, more blessed that proceeds in it, most of all that finisheth it, to the glory of God, and the honour of our king and nation."

Such were the sentiments expressed two centuries ago by Sir Edward Coke.

In a pamphlet published by William Bradford, one of the judges of the supreme court of Pennsylvania, it appears, that the opinions of intelligent men of former times, have, in our time, been safely adopted. The immediate cause of this advancement of kind feeling is explained by him in the following extract.

"The distresses of the prisoners, and the disorders in the prisons of Philadelphia had long engaged the sympathetic attention of the inhabitants. Occasional relief was often afforded;

but the magnitude of the sufferings and disorders at length induced the attempt of forming a society under the title of the *Philadelphia Society for alleviating the miseries of public prisons*. It soon became large and respectable, and from subscriptions and donations, early possessed funds equal to its object."

Most of the members of this society lived to see their exertions blessed by the abolition of capital punishment in Pennsylvania, for all crimes except murder, and by the establishment of a system of prison discipline which has reclaimed, and is reclaiming, thousands of our misguided fellow creatures.

A society has lately been formed in London "for the diffusion of knowledge respecting the punishment of death, and the improvement of prison discipline."

This society has submitted to public consideration one volume containing the opinions of different authors upon the punishment of death: there is an additional volume in the press; with a third volume on prisons. The circulation of knowledge upon these subjects greatly depends on the funds of the society. These funds, hitherto raised by contributions from each member, are necessarily inadequate to the importance of the object: but, confident that good must result from inquiry, the society hope for the sympathy and assistance of the benevolent, of all "who desire not the death of a sinner, but rather that he shall turn from his wickedness and live."

In London and Middlesex, between the first of January 1749, and the thirty-first of December 1800, one thousand seven hundred and twenty-four persons suffered death.

| | | | |
|------|----|------|----|
| 1740 | 44 | 1760 | 10 |
| 1750 | 56 | 1761 | 17 |
| 1751 | 63 | 1762 | 15 |
| 1752 | 47 | 1763 | 32 |
| 1753 | 41 | 1764 | 31 |
| 1754 | 34 | 1765 | 26 |
| 1755 | 21 | 1766 | 20 |
| 1756 | 13 | 1767 | 22 |
| 1757 | 26 | 1768 | 27 |
| 1758 | 20 | 1769 | 24 |
| 1759 | 6 | 1770 | 40 |

| | | | |
|------|----|-------|------|
| 1771 | 34 | 1787 | 92 |
| 1772 | 37 | 1788 | 25 |
| 1773 | 32 | 1789 | 26 |
| 1774 | 32 | 1790 | 38 |
| 1775 | 46 | 1791 | 34 |
| 1776 | 38 | 1792 | 24 |
| 1777 | 32 | 1793 | 16 |
| 1778 | 33 | 1794 | 7 |
| 1779 | 23 | 1795 | 22 |
| 1780 | 50 | 1796 | 22 |
| 1781 | 40 | 1797 | 19 |
| 1782 | 45 | 1798 | 19 |
| 1783 | 53 | 1799 | 24 |
| 1784 | 56 | 1800 | 19 |
| 1785 | 97 | | |
| 1786 | 50 | Total | 1724 |

Offences executed for in half a century.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-----|
| Murder | 131 |
| Shooting at persons | 5 |
| Rape | 4 |
| Unnatural crime | 1 |
| Burglary and house-breaking | 332 |
| High-way robbery | 420 |
| Shop-lifting, &c. | 479 |
| Horse stealing | 39 |
| Stealing in dwelling-houses | 5 |
| Stealing letters | 9 |
| Defrauding creditors | 3 |
| Robbery on the Thames | 8 |
| Piracy | 10 |
| Forgery | 134 |
| Coining | 57 |
| Personating to obtain prize money | 11 |
| Rioting | 26 |
| Returning from transportation | 40 |

Total 1724

The work alluded to, as being already published by the society, is entitled, "The opinions of different authors upon the punishment of death, selected by Basil Montagu, esq. of Lincoln's Inn, and contains observations on this subject, from the pens of Doctor Johnson, Sir W. Blackstone, Marquis of Beccaria, Sir Thomas Moore, Lord Bacon, P. Colquhoun, L.L.D. Pastoret Montesquieu, Dr. Franklin, Bentham, Howard, Bradford, Turner and others. It does not adduce evidence or reasoning only on one side, but brings forward opposite opinions to excite inquiry, and obtain information upon this important subject.

Any original communications or references upon this subject will be

thankfully received, directed to Joseph Lancaster, Borough road, London.

To the Proprietors of the Belfast Magazine.

HENRY AND JULIA, A TALE FROM REAL LIFE.

GENTLEMEN,

I AM one of your constant readers, who have been for some time very much surprized that you seldom or never introduce the subject of love into your Magazine, therefore I am about to give you a little story which you are welcome to insert, if you like it. It is not sentimental, nor in the usual style and costume of novels; in this respect it differs from them, that it may be called REAL LIFE.

Henry and Julia were inhabitants of the same village; Henry spent the early part of his youth at school, after which he came home for a few days to see his parents, and Julia made such good use of her time, that she fell in love with him before he went apprentice, which was in less than a fortnight: for seven long years was he bound, and only came to see his friends twice during that time. Julia discovered new graces in his face and person, and deportment every time, but could not be sure whether he loved her or not. At length he settled at home, and established a chandler's shop. In the morning Henry was busy melting tallow, in the day he had a thousand things to do, and when still evening came on he was forced to stand behind the counter, selling candle after candle. "Ah!" thought Julia, "how unlike a lover is this! he might at least come see me in the evenings, or walk out by moonlight, but there he stands receiving that abominable money, and snuffing up that odious smell: his intellect will be stupified, and his tender passions deadened." In truth Henry was all this time looking forward to the time when his halfpence would amount to shillings, his shillings to pounds, and his pounds to hundred pounds, in order that he might maintain a family, and indeed he thought of no other help-mate but Julia. "Alas, if Julia knew this, and she shall know it in time." If Henry had sold any thing but candles, Julia might have

had frequent excuses to go to his shop, but candles were not genteel enough for Julia to carry home. This circumstance often occasioned her uneasiness, as she was wont in her moments of romantic meditation to picture to herself how sweet it would have been, if the fates had decreed that Henry had sold thread, or ribbons, or muslin, or whalebone busks, or stay laces, any of which she might have spent some precious moments in choosing, and deliberating or consulting with him upon, as he stood behind the counter; and, as she would probably lament her weariness in standing so long, he would very likely ask her into his little parlour to rest or to warm herself. Her imagination went on till she conceived how he might then, and there pop the endearing question to her—but alas! Henry's head was not filled with any of these charming visions, nor did he lament that he was doomed to sell candles, but daily rejoiced at his increasing riches, and fully hoped that he might provide for a family by perseverance in industry.

Having for some time considered and weighed the pro's and con's of the solemn state of matrimony, and concluded in favour of it, he mentioned the matter to his father, who approved his choice, and proposed for her to her father, who took it under consideration, and in the mean time Henry took a walk one day, that he was slack of business, to see Julia, who had just been reading a novel, and had worked herself up into an extacy of anxiety for Henry's declaration. The reader must observe that she was already apprized of his intention towards her. Henry appeared; Julia laid down her book and blushed. Henry sat him down without any of that interesting embarrassment which is so delightful in lovers. Unfortunately an end of a mould candle which remained in a candlestick on the side table, drew his eye, and called forth such ardent attention and diffuse discussion that Julia's feelings were sorely wounded. The conversation which he thought naturally followed the candle, and at the same time introduced the purpose of his visit, was a question whether Julia could melt suet, and if she had heard

of the new improved method of putting a little water in the cauldron which would purify the tallow from all dregs and dross; her answer was not satisfactory to him, but he told her that he had little doubt but practice would bring her to. She said she had no opportunity of practising. "You will I hope," said he—"I don't know" said she, "why you should hope it?"—"Have you not heard of the proposal I made your father of marrying you? I know you a long time, and have had no time to get acquainted with other girls, you have no objection, I expect, to be my companion." All Julia's visions were knocked in the head, the relief from fear which she now experienced was like the dissipation of a stormy night, by a gloomy stupid day; the charming phenomenon of sunrise was not seen by her, all was plain and insipid to her taste, yet she determined to make something of it if possible, and thought a mock refusal was her best plan. Accordingly she said she had no relish for the marriage state, nor never expected to have a taste for chandling; therefore begged Henry would endeavour to drive her image from his thoughts. "I am sorry," said Henry, "that you don't like my proposal, which I thought was as decent a one as I could make." He took his leave, and left her in despair. When Julia found herself alone, her mind was filled with strange and contrary emotions. She gazed at the candle that stood on the side board, and for a moment she would have resigned all the charms of liberty, and all the enchantments of romantic hopes to taste the sweet reality of being a chandler's wife, then she looked with contempt upon the candle, and was disgusted at the host of grease and filth she must daily behold, and the clouds of offensive exhalations she must daily inhale. Her agitated and swollen heart sought consolation, and vent in novels, which were the principal companions of her leisure hours, and her constant counsellors in the dilemmas into which her imprudence often introduced her, but alas! novels only excited that agitation which she thought to get rid of, and increased that perplexity and

confusion from which she wished to extricate herself. In short, she met no case which resembled her own in all its parts. Novels generally represent the swain equally tormented and bewitched with the nymph, but here the swain was a mere, sober, industrious young man who wanted a wife for several good reasons best known to himself. He was also naturally shy, and could not bring himself to make warm professions at the first onset, even though he had known how; but if Julia had had patience, her lover's passion might have equalled or surpassed his prudence and bashfulness. Time, the great regulator of all things, settled Julia's agitation into a sober disappointment, which was not so violent as to disable her from forming plans of regaining her lover. From this time Julia became extremely domestic, and was very particular to keep the house in mould candles. In this charming occupation she has often been heard to soliloquize in doleful strains, and her sighs came so frequently as to keep the tallow from congealing. Henry was not one of those dejected swains who neglect their business for the dint of sorrow, nor was so high spirited as to desist visiting Julia's house when he had spare time on his hands. In one of these visits no one was at home but Julia, he inquired for her, the servant told her who was come; upon which she requested Mr. Henry might be told she was very busy, and if he pleased he might come to her: accordingly he was introduced into the kitchen, his nose met the smell it was accustomed to, and his eyes beheld Julia filling the candle moulds. A conversation naturally ensued upon this pleasing and profitable business. Julia expressed her partiality to it, inquired for fresh instruction which he freely gave, but which she said she would soon forget, he promised to repeat it, but applications and repetitions were so frequently made, that it was deemed most convenient for them to inhabit the same house for the purpose of mutual information, and reciprocal obligation. Henry resigned the care of the dairy, the tea caddie, and the wardrobe to Julia, and undertook to keep the en-

tire care and labour of the chandling to himself, which brought in sufficient cash to keep the field and dairy stocked, the tea caddie full, and the wardrobe furnished with linen and woollen of all sizes and sorts, and thus they happily jogged on in the bonds of matrimony. E.

APPENDIX NO. 1. TO THE REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEE FOR ROADS, BROAD WHEELS, &c.

Observations on the means of giving to the Wheels of heavy Carriages, the same intensity of pressure on the surface of Roads; and a statement of the advantages that would result therefrom; by Alexander Cumming, esq. of Pentonville.

ADMITTING that the cylindrical wheel was universally adopted, it becomes of the greatest importance that the breadth of the wheels be adjusted to the weight of the load; so that the track or impression of the wheels of every carriage shall be of the same depth, and that the wheels of each carriage may reciprocally roll in or upon the tracks of each other without damage: but that on the contrary, each subsequent wheel shall add to the improvement of the preceding, and render the track more perfect than before.

2. There appears to have been a great oversight in the regulations of the 13th of Geo. III. in this respect. The weight of the loaded waggon being divided into four, and each wheel supposed to bear an equal share, the total pressure of the wheels on the road appears to have been taken as the *effective power* of the wheel to act and make an impression on the surface; and no other criterion of the intensity of that power, to cut the surface or to make an impression or rut was assumed; no notice appears to have been taken of the proportion which the breadth of the wheel had to the weight that it sustained; nor of the *intensity* of the action of the same weight, on wheels of different breadths.

3. By this manner of estimating the effective power, or the intensity of the force with which the wheel com-

presses the surface which it rolls, one should be led to many erroneous conclusions; the intensity of the pressure of the wheel would always be supposed to depend wholly on the weight of the load; whatever might be the breadth of the wheel, and by that rule, the intensity of action of the 16-inch wheel with the load of eight ton, would be to the intensity with the wheel of three inches, and the load of $3\frac{1}{2}$ ton, as 4,480. to 1,960 and this would seem a pretty fair proportion between the weight of the load and the breadth of the wheels, at least it is so fair in appearance, that the heaviest load has the greatest intensity.

4. Nothing can be more certain than that increasing the breadth of the wheel diffuses the pressure on a larger surface, and diminishes the intensity of that pressure on every inch of the surface that is rolled; let us then examine and compare the intensity of pressure of the sixteen inch wheel, and the three inch wheel, with the loads as before, making allowance for the breadth of each of the wheels; and the intensity of the pressure on *every inch* that is rolled by the sixteen inch wheel with the load of eight ton, will be equal only

to the dead weight of 280 lb. The intensity of the pressure of the three inch wheel with the load of, three and a half ton, is equal to 653 lb. which is considerably more than twice the intensity of the pressure with the sixteen inch wheel. This shows how little attention had been paid to the real advantages of the broad wheel, and the disadvantages of the narrow; and proves the necessity of such new regulations, as shall render the intensity of the pressure of all wheels, and with all different loads, on the surface of the roads equal to each other, so that every wheel shall make an impression or track of the same depth.

5. The following table is according to the 13th of Geo III. The *three* first columns give the breadth of the wheels, the weight of the load, and the number of horses as stated in that act; the fourth column gives the weight drawn by each horse; the fifth gives the weight on each wheel, or the total pressure, whatever be the breadth of the wheel; and the sixth column gives the pressure on *every inch* of the breadth of the wheel, or the true intensity of the pressure on the surface of the road, according to the breadth of each wheel.

| Breadth of the Wheels. | | Weight of the Load. | The Number of Horses. | Weight drawn by each Horse. | Weight on each Wheel. | The pressure on every Inch. |
|------------------------|-----|---------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| | | | | cwt. lb. | | |
| 16 inches. | | 8 ton. | 10. | 16. —. | 40 cwt. | 280 lb. |
| 9 do. rolling. | 16. | $6\frac{1}{2}$ do. | 8. | 16. 42. | 32 do. | 404 do. |
| 6 do. rolling. | 9. | 6 do. | 8. | 15. —. | 30 do. | 375 do. |
| 6 do. rolling. | 11. | $5\frac{1}{2}$ do. | 6. | 18. 37. | $27\frac{1}{2}$ do. | 513 do. |
| 6 do. rolling. | 6. | $4\frac{1}{2}$ do. | 6. | 16. —. | $22\frac{1}{2}$ do. | 420 do. |
| 3 do. rolling. | 3. | $3\frac{1}{2}$ do. | 4. | 17. 56. | $17\frac{1}{2}$ do. | 653 do. |

7. It appears by this table that no regular proportion has been observed between the breadth of the wheels, the weight of the load, and the number of horses; in the fifth column, the *sum* of the pressure on the wheel decreases pretty gradually as the wheels become narrower; but in the sixth column, where the breadth of the wheel was taken into the account, the intensity of the pressure on every inch of the surface that is rolled is increased as the wheels become

narrower, which seems contrary to all reason.

8. With the nine-inch and the six-inch wheels when they roll a double surface, the weight of the load is considerably increased, although the resistance to the progress of the wheels, and the labour of the cattle, *with the same load*, is increased by rolling the double surface.

9. If the roads be in good order, the double rolling is of no use; if they be soft and compressible, they

resistance becomes greater as the surface that is rolled is broader; and it is generally supposed, that the resistance in rolling the double surface is the same as with the single: but it ought to be remembered, that with the single surface, the hind wheels run in the paved track of the front wheels, but with the double surface, every wheel has to compress and level its own track.

10. It is much better to increase the breadth of the cylindrical wheels than to make the front, and the hind wheels of the same carriage, to roll double surfaces; the intensity of pressure on the surface of the road is diminished by increasing the breadth of the wheels, but not by rolling a double surface.

11. The advantages of rendering the intensity of the pressure of the wheels of all carriages as nearly equal as may be practicable, would be of the next greatest importance to the introduction of the cylindrical wheel.

12. Let us suppose a three-inch wheel under a load three and a half tons, running in the track made by a sixteen inch wheel with the load of eight ton; the intensity of the narrow wheel 650 lbs. that of the broad wheel in whose track it runs, is only 280 lbs. the narrow wheel will therefore cut up the bottom of the broad track and meet with much more resistance than if it made no such impression; the resistance to the next wheel that follows in the same path is increased by the breaking up of the path; and the smooth surface of the broad track being cut open, it admits water, and introduces all the bad effects of wet seasons and subsequent hard frosts; all which evils might be avoided by having the intensity of the pressure of the narrow wheels, only equal to or something less than that of the broad wheel, the narrow wheel would in that case roll with great facility in the path of the broad wheel without making any impression, or in any respect damaging the track in which it runs.

13. And if all wheels were made of as equal intensity, as circumstances will permit, they would mutually roll in the tracks of each other, without any other effect than each repairing

the path of any accidental damage which it may have received since the last wheel passed, the road will become more and more consolidated, its surface more close and impervious to water; there will be no dragging or grinding of conical wheels, no means of converting the best material into dust in summer, or into sludge in winter; there will then remain no other cause of damage to the roads except the pedestrian exertion of cattle.

14. The intensity of the pressure of the wheels may be regulated by maintaining a regular proportion between the weight of the load and the breadth of the wheels; it is nevertheless advisable to take the number of cattle into the account, and by that means it would seem that the intensity of the pressure might be preserved sufficiently equal with the cylindrical wheels, without the controul of the weighing engine, by observing a regular proportion between the number of horses and the breadth of the wheels.

15. The following table is therefore constructed so, as to give a regular proportion between the number of horses, the breadth of the wheels, and the weight of the load; and as two horses are the fewest that can be employed in a four-wheel waggon, we begin with that number, and proceed regularly to eight; and taking the average of the weight drawn by each horse, according to the act of 13th Geo. III. we find it sixteen hundred; and assuming that as the weight to be drawn by each horse, according to the new regulation also, the weight of the load is thus determined by the number of horses, allowing sixteen hundred to each, and the breadth of wheel that is allowed to each horse, is determined by the sixteen inch wheel, drawn by eight horses, which gives two inches of breadth for each horse.

16. And by allowing sixteen hundred weight for each horse, the weight of the load is determined, and by giving two inches for each horse, the breadth of the wheels is ascertained for any number of horses; and thus the intensity of the pressure of the wheels of all carriages may be

determined and kept nearly equal to each other, by maintaining an uniform proportion of the weight of the load, and the breadth of the wheels, with the number of horses that draw the waggon, &c.

17. And the following table exhibits at one view, the breadth of the wheels, and the weight of the load, for any number of horses from two to eight, to give the same intensity of pressure with each.

| | The Number of Horses. | The Breadth of the Wheels. | The Weight of Waggon. | The Weight drawn by each Horse. | Weight on each Wheel. | The Pressure on every Inch. |
|----|-----------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| | | | Ton. Cwt. | | | |
| 18 | 8 | 16 inches. | 6. 8. | 16 cwt | 32 cwt. | 224 lb. |
| | 7 | 14 do. | 5. 12. | 16 do. | 28 do. | 224 do. |
| | 6 | 12 do. | 4. 16. | 16 do. | 24 do. | 224 do. |
| | 5 | 10 do. | 4. —. | 16 do. | 20 do. | 224 do. |
| | 3 | 8 do. | 3. 4. | 16 do. | 16 do. | 224 do. |
| | 2 | 6 do. | 2. 8. | 16 do. | 12 do. | 224 do. |
| | 2 | 4 do. | 1. 12. | 16 do. | 8 do. | 224 do. |

19. The advantages of this arrangement are, that as the intensity of the pressure of the wheels of all the carriages are equal, or nearly so, the tracks of all wheels will be equally deep; and since the wheels are all cylindrical, and the axles straight, every wheel that runs in the track of another, will apply its whole breadth, as fully to the bottom of the former track, as the wheel that formed it; and having the same intensity of pressure, it cannot disturb the parts that are in contact, nor prevent their cohesion or induration, nor produce any other effect on the former track, unless rendering the consolidation more perfect, and the surface more close and impervious to water, and compressing and uniting any loose or broken particles that may have fallen into the track since the last wheel had passed.

20. And as in the course of traffic the same carriage will sometimes lead, and sometimes follow, no inconvenience or interruption will take place in the uniform system of consolidation and amelioration by that alternate precedency; and it does appear from what has already been said of the three inch wheel rolling in the track of the sixteen inch wheel, that the narrow wheel should never have a greater intensity of pressure than the broad wheel, in order that it may run in the broad track without cutting or damaging it.

21. It has been suggested (14) that the controul weighing engines might be rendered unnecessary, by observing a regular proportion between the number of horses that draw the carriage, and the breadth of its wheels.

22. When Conical broad wheels were used, the difficulty of drawing the carriage, and the damage that was done the roads, were increased, as the intensity of the pressure on the surface; and although that intensity was diminished by increasing the breadth of the wheel, the dragging of its rim was so much increased by increasing the breadth, that every addition to the weight of the load became doubly hurtful to the road, and the check of the weighing engines under those circumstances became necessary.

23. But with the cylindrical wheel, there is no dragging at the rim, no grinding or pulverising, no resistance but what arises from the compressing and consolidating the materials; all the additional weight of the load increases the compressive force on the same extent of surface, and improves the road on which it rolls; and although the labour of the cattle must be increased by the first time of rolling a new track, in proportion as the load is heavier, and the impression deeper, the consolidation becomes more perfect, and the improvement more permanent, and the road, instead of being damaged by increasing the weight of the load with

the cylindrical wheels, is improved by it.

24. Where then is the use of the weighing engine, with the cylindrical wheels? It is not easy to divest the mind of impressions that have already been made, and confirmed by long experience. It is very natural for the waggoner to say, "If adding to the weight of the load, and to the breadth of the wheel, have heretofore been found from experience to be unfavourable to the roads, how happens it they should now become advantageous?"

25. The answer is simple and easy. The *broad wheels* formerly used were conical; and all the properties that arise from the conical shape are the most unfavourable to the roads that can be conceived; and so sensibly did the proprietors of broad wheel waggons feel the bad effects of these broad wheels that they have tried to avoid them, by narrowing the bearing of the wheels, conceiving that the only means of avoiding an evil that was increased by the breadth of the wheel, was, by reducing that breadth: and thus introduced the convex sole, and the narrow middle tire, and with them all the destructive effects of narrow wheels carrying monstrous loads; under all which circumstances the nature of the conical shape left them only the choice of two great evils, those that are inseparable from the conical shape, and those that are peculiar to the narrow wheels, each of which are increased by adding to the weight of the load.

26. But every property of the cylindrical shape is of the most favourable nature possible to the roads, and to the labour of the cattle; and the additional pressure that was so destructive to the roads with the conical wheels is in an equal degree favourable with the cylindrical wheel, and if a discretionary liberty be given of loading every waggon that has its cylindrical wheels of a breadth proportioned to the number of horses, no disadvantage will arise to the roads from any weight which that number of horses can draw.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

A DIALOGUE BETWEEN AN IRISHMAN AND AN ORANGEMAN ON THE 12TH OF JULY, 1810.

Irishman. WHY do you wear that lilly in your hat.

Orangeman.... in memory of King William and his victories over the Papists.

Irishman.... But could you not remember that king or his achievement without wearing that yellow flower? if not your memories must be very bad.

Orangeman.... But it has another motive; it shows our strength and our numbers.

Irishman.... Well, but if all those who wear yellow flowers are of your party, and all those who do not wear them are not of your party, they rather show your weakness, for few comparatively of all the people, wear them.

Orangeman.... But it shows our spirit.

Irishman.... Yes I admit, it shews in a distinguished manner your spirit.

Orangeman.... Besides it is an old custom.

Irishman.... Yes this I also admit; wearing yellow lilies refers to an event which has happened above a hundred years ago; so long has it happened, that you might now forget it, without any impeachment to your memory.

Orangeman.... Then you would have us forget the glory of our ancestry.

Irishman.... Think not more of the glory of your ancestry, than of yourselves.

Orangeman.... It shows our loyalty.

Irishman.... It cannot show loyalty, for it unnecessarily insults the Catholics, your fellow citizens, who by this means, are rendered less friendly to you, and less affectionate to the government. Such conduct by proclaiming public separation and public insult is not loyal, it is disloyal; it is offensive to the king, the common parent of all his people, as it is offensive to a great body of his people, on whose universal affection for him, on whose universal union among themselves, rests the foundation alike of his throne and of their and of your own security against the common enemy of Europe.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF DISTINGUISHED PERSONS.

MEMOIRS OF THE LIFE AND BOTANICAL TRAVELS OF ANDRÉ MICHAUX, BY DELEUZE.*

WE are indebted for the greater part of the vegetable productions which enrich our fields and gardens to efforts of industry. Our garden vegetables and fruits are the natives of various countries, and in their natural state were very inferior to what we see them in our cultivated lands. Indefatigable researches have successively discovered them in their native soil; and after being imported and improved by culture, commerce has spread them from one country to another. After various experiments, choice has been made of the kinds that are most productive, or most suitable to the climate into which they were introduced; and many districts, where the inhabitants could scarcely find food in former times, now present abundant harvests to a numerous population.

Of about two hundred and fifty kinds of trees, which are at present found in France, more than three-fourths are natives of foreign soils. Among those exotics many afford delicious fruits; many are employed in building and the other useful arts; and others serve to ornament our parks and gardens, and present us with the picturesque views of the most favoured countries of the globe. The walnut-tree comes from Pontus; the cherry from Cerasonte; the olive from Athens; the almond tree from the east; the peach from Persia; the mulberry from China; the fig from Syria; the apricot from Armenia; the pomegranate from Carthage; and the orange from India. It is the same with our herbaceous plants. It is unknown from what country corn was originally derived; but many of our best culinary and agricultural vegetables are natives of Asia. The discovery of America has furnished us with maize,

which constitutes the principal nourishment of various parts of our continent; and the potatoe, which has augmented the population of Ireland and Switzerland, and in the north of Europe is a resource of such great importance to the nourishment of man; together with a prodigious number of useful trees, such as the acacia, the tulip-tree, several firs, the ash, the maple, &c.

This part of our wealth may still be greatly increased; but we must not rely, for all the advantage of this kind that may be acquired, on the efforts of traders, who bring only such trees or vegetables as the meet with on the coasts, and in the ordinary pursuits of their commerce. To derive all the benefit which this inexhaustible wealth offers, we must have men of study and science, who will penetrate into the interior of the countries they visit, and can distinguish the productions that are most useful.

We have pursued these reflections to demonstrate how much we owe to those courageous men, who, for the service of civilized society, have renounced all its enjoyments to search for the undiscovered treasures of nature in savage or uninhabited countries. Nor are these reflections foreign to our present subject: he of whose life we are about to give some account, well deserves to be placed among the benefactors of the human race. In tracing the picture of his laborious life, we shall see that the most ardent passion for the sciences, and above all for that of agriculture, united to the most constant love for his country, inspired him with the noblest plans, and endowed him for their execution with that intrepidity which braved dangers, and that strength and vigour which resist fatigue and surmount obstacles.

André Michaux was born at Satory, a royal domain, situated in the park of Versailles, on the 7th of March, 1746. When ten years old he was

* *Annales du Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle*, xvme cahier.

sent to a boarding-school with his younger brother, but neither of them remained there more than four years. Their father, whose intention it was that they should succeed him in the management of the farm at Satory, of which he had the care, deeming it unnecessary that they should pursue their studies further, sent for them home, and applied himself to the giving them an early habit of rural labours, and an early relish for the simplicity of that way of life.

The young André, whom nature had endowed with an extraordinary activity of disposition, soon acquired the most decided taste for agriculture. He closely examined the various vegetable productions within his reach; carefully explored the gardens; made incessant experiments; and, ambitious of uniting theory with practice, gave all his leisure time to the study of the principles of his art.

He lost his father in 1763, and his mother in 1766. Being now the depositary of the fortunes of his sisters, he divided the care of the farm with his brother till the year 1769, when they separated their concerns and pursuits. During this interval he had studied the elements of the Greek language, and improved himself in the Latin tongue.

In October 1769 he married Cecilia Claye, daughter of a rich farmer of Beauce, who died in September the following year, after having borne him a son. This loss plunged Michaux in the deepest despair. M. le Monnier, being informed of the circumstance, conceived the most tender interest in his concerns, frequently inviting Michaux to visit him at his garden of Montreuil, near Versailles. This celebrated man, in such high repute at court, solaced his leisure hours in conversation with Michaux, whose melancholy he laboured to subdue by engaging him in the study of botany, and of the principles of naturalising foreign vegetable productions. The farm of Satory consisted of five hundred acres, and le Monnier advised Michaux to dedicate a portion of it wholly to experiments; which plan was adopted: he sowed madder and rice (*ris nu*) that perfectly succeeded. M. le Monnier then intro-

duced him to M. d'Angiviller, who engaged him to make trials of the culture of the tefl of Abyssinia, an excellent pasture grass, of which Bruce had furnished the seed. The manner in which he executed this commission added much to the favourable idea that had been entertained of him.

He continued, notwithstanding these labours, to be still a prey to his grief, the remembrance of the beloved object he had lost being incessantly recalled by every scene around him. A passion for travelling, which he had entertained from his earliest years, was naturally increased by this state of mind. I remember to have heard him say, that having construed Quintus Curtius when he was fourteen, that author's descriptions of the countries conquered by Alexander so inflamed his imagination, that from that period he had almost constantly sighed for the happiness of travelling over the eastern world.

This strong impression was never afterwards destroyed by his advancement in years: it was merely subjected to the calm examination of reason, whence it was no longer a vague desire of exploring new countries. In quitting an abode become too painful to him, he entertained the honourable ambition of rendering services to his country. To this end he formed the resolution to travel into countries little known, situated in a climate analogous to that of France, to collect their productions, and naturalize them in his native soil. Perceiving, however, with an ingenious feeling, that he had not yet attained sufficient knowledge to travel with the utmost prospect of success in his scheme, he resigned his farm in favour of his brother, and gave himself up to study with renewed ardour.

In 1777 he established himself at Trianon, to study botany under Bernard de Jussieu, to whom M. le Monnier had recommended him; and in 1779 he removed to Paris, and took a lodging in the neighbourhood of the *Jurden des Plantes*, to improve himself in the knowledge of various parts of natural history.

These studies being finished, his next idea was, that the profession of one whose travels in the prosecution

of any great object of science, required, like every other profession, a particular apprenticeship; and that it would be profitable still further to practise the science in countries where important aids were to be obtained, previous to the penetrating into countries unknown or uncultivated. He therefore first visited England. The English at that time were almost the exclusive cultivators of exotic plants and trees. Michaux was enraptured at the sight of their collections, and on his return to France, brought with him a great number of trees, which he planted in the gardens of M. le Monnier, and the Marshal de Noailles, where they perfectly succeeded. Frequently also he took from these gardens a bundle of cyons, and traversing the woods of Versailles engrafted a number of trees, using a method that was peculiar to himself.

In 1780 he made an excursion on the mountains of Auvergne, with several botanists, among whom were M. de la Marck, and M. Thouin, by whom we have been informed, that as soon as they had quitted the place in which they had passed the night, Michaux, armed with a fowling-piece; and carrying a haversack, a port-folio, and several tin boxes, always advanced before them, rapidly climbing the mountains. He carried in his pocket seeds of the cedar of Lebanon, which he sowed in places favourable to its growth. He was frequently seen at a distance, halting and conversing with the shepherds; was now and then heard to discharge his gun; and in the evening he was found in the place of rendezvous, laden not only with a collection of plants, but with birds, minerals, and insects.

Soon after his return from the mountains of Auvergne, he proceeded to traverse the Pyrenees, and passed into Spain; from which tour he returned with seeds, that were distributed to different gardens, and experimental botanists.

He then addressed himself to M. le Monnier, requesting him to obtain a commission for him to travel into countries where he might find new objects of his science. This gentleman readily promised him to seize the first opportunity, which soon present-

ed itself. M. Rousseau, a native of Ispahan, and nephew of the celebrated Rousseau of Geneva, arrived at Paris, having been recently appointed consul of Persia: Michaux was pitched upon to accompany him; and Monsieur, the king's brother, assigned him a pension of 1200 livres. Our traveller made no complaint of the insufficiency of the sum: he fitted himself out at his own expense, and departed with the consul in 1782. They proceeded first to Aleppo,* and thence to Bagdad,

* I here add an extract of a letter from Michaux to M. Thouin, which appears to me sufficiently interesting to be preserved:

Aleppo, July 30, 1789.

MY DEAR SIR,

"I landed at Alexandretta on the 30th of March. I cannot express to you the delight with which I run over the country here. In examining the multitude of plants with which the fields abound, I was often transported beyond myself, and compelled to pause and tranquilize my mind for some moments. At night I could not sleep, but watched the dawn of day with impatience. What happiness! to find myself in Asia, and at my pleasure to traverse the mountains and valleys covered with liliaceous plants, orchidæ, daphnes, laurus, vitices, myrtles, andrachnes, styrax, palms, and other vegetable productions, different from those of Europe. The sea-shore abounded with shell-fish, varied in form and colour: land and sea birds came every morning to feed upon them. The flamingos came in flocks of three or four hundred each. The marshes abound with reptiles. Unfortunately the greater part of the plants were not yet in flower; and the mountains were infested by the Bayas, who the preceding year had pillaged the caravan of Alexandretta, and a few days before our landing had put to flight the troops sent to guard the town, and had burnt several of the houses.

"Since my arrival at Aleppo, I have made two tours among the mountains. The town is situated on the side of a valley, in which are gardens abounding with trees, none of which are grafted; the rest of the country is dry, stony, and uncultivated. For six leagues round, not a single tree or shrub is to be seen. Beyond are vast plains, whose fertility, if cultivated, would be prodigious. On these were formerly villages, which have been successively destroyed. The predecessor of the present Pacha destroyed

where they arrived after a journey of forty days across the desert. At Bagdad Michaux quitted the consul. He traversed those countries, formerly so flourishing, at present so devastated, which are situated between the Tigris and the Euphrates, to proceed to Bassora, where he remained for some months to acquire information respecting the country, and to perfect himself in the Persian language, of which he compiled a dictionary that forms a large volume, now before me.

Persia was at that time a prey to civil wars, and the Arabs laid waste

more than eighty, on the pretext that the inhabitants had formerly revolted. His soldiers committed unheard of cruelties among them. They ransacked the houses, and cut off the heads of women and children, to make themselves masters of the pieces of gold which ornamented their head-dresses. It is by such vexations that the Pachas indemnify themselves for the tributes they pay to the grand seignior. These ruined villages are at present the haunts of robbers.

"Excursions are equally painful and dangerous throughout the whole of this part of Asia, which extends from Syria to the frontiers of India. The traveller carries his provisions, and sleeps on the ground, avoiding the caravanseras on account of their filthiness, and the insects with which they abound. He must, however, follow the caravans; otherwise he would be plundered by the Arabs on the plains, and the Curdes who infest the mountains. The caravans are often attacked: in March last, the robbers took from Alexandretta, 380 camels; and the one which is now ready to depart, has been compelled to wait ten days beyond their time, expecting troops which the Pacha of Aleppo and Antioch has detached for their escort. Every traveller must take with him an Armenian, with whom he must watch alternately; for the conductors of the caravans are for the most part knaves, who watch an opportunity secretly to rob the traveller.

"While I am waiting for our departure from Bagdad, which will not take place in less than a month, I purpose to make a botanical excursion over 150 leagues. I shall pass by Laodicea, Antioch, and Seleucia: I hope to find medals in this last city. At my return I shall send you and M. de Maleherbes some specimens of seed. The consuls and merchants can tell you that no one labours with more ardour to make his fortune, than I do for the interests of botany."

the frontiers. Michaux endeavoured to enter by Busheer, a port of the Persian gulf; but he was taken and plundered by the Arabs, who left him nothing but his books. Stript of all that he possessed, and without resources, he was at a loss to what quarter he should turn himself, when he was claimed by Mr. la Touche, the English consul at Bassora. Although peace was not yet concluded between England and France, Mr. la Touche justly thought that a naturalist who travelled for the benefit of mankind, ought to be protected by every nation; and he generously furnished him with the means of pursuing his journey. Michaux succeeded in an attempt to gain Shiras, whence, after remaining some time he proceeded to Ispahan. From Ispahan, exploring mountains and deserts, he employed two years in traversing Persia, from the Indian sea to the Caspian. In this expedition, he found that the provinces situated between the thirty-fifth, and the forty-fifth degrees of latitude, are the native countries of the greater part of the trees that enrich our fields and gardens. The walnut, the cherry-tree, the vine, the spelt, lucerne, sainfoin, the chick pea, onions, lilies, tulips, &c. grow naturally in those countries. He also acquired information on the culture of the date; and established a very curious fact, already mentioned by Kämpfer, which is, that the male flowers of the date, although kept a year, are still proper to fecundate the female.*

Although botany was his principal object, he did not neglect whatever might be interesting to the other branches of science. We are indebted to him for a very curious monument in perfect preservation, found at one day's journey below Bagdad, among the ruins of a palace known by the name of the garden of Semiramis, near the Tigris, which is now in the cabinet of antiquities in the national library. It is a stone in the form of a pear, a little flattened on two sides, a foot and a half in height,

* See a memoir of Michaux, read at the National Institute on the 6th of Floreal, in the 7th year, and printed in the *Journal de Physique. Floreal, an ix.*

and a foot broad, weighing 44 pounds. It is ornamented with carving on the two flat sides: on the upper part are various symbolic figures, and below is a long inscription on two spaces, one of twenty-five, and the other of twenty-six lines. The illustration of this monument, which M. Millin published in his *Monumens Antiques*, vol. 1. p. 58, has given rise to much discussion, but we are still confined to conjectures on this subject.

It is difficult to conceive how Michaux could effect so many important objects, with such feeble means, in a country disturbed by war, infested by hordes of robbers, where it was necessary to travel constantly armed, frequently to join the caravans, in order to proceed from one country to another, sometimes to fly before the robbers, and at others to put them to flight by a vigorous resistance.

His character is peculiarly displayed in the notes of his journal. Relating a voyage which he made in a boat on the Tigris, he laments that he was not able, while the boat lay to during a few hours, on some occasion, to botanize on the neighbouring shore. "The Arabs," says he, "had taken away my shoes, and the soil was so scorching that it was impossible to place my feet except where the water covered the shore." In speaking of his circumstances, the only loss with which he appeared to be affected, was that of a favourable opportunity of pursuing his researches.

Michaux returned to Paris in the month of June 1785, bringing with him a magnificent collection of plants and seeds. We are indebted to this expedition for many vegetables at present successfully cultivated in the gardens of the amateurs, such as *Rosa simplicifolia*, *Zorgae leptaucea*, *Michauxia campanulata*,* &c. He was received by men of science with peculiar distinction, who alone were

capable of appreciating the merit of a man who sought not to display his own admirable qualities. They thought that the services which he had rendered the country, and the sacrifices which he had made, merited a national recompense; but Michaux demanded only to be sent on a new journey. He wished to return to Asia to visit the countries on the east of the Caspian sea, and afterwards to proceed to Thibet and the kingdom of Cashmere, whose productions are little known, and where there exist objects of commerce and manufactures which he was desirous of introducing into France. His solicitations were fruitless: yet the government, anxious to enrich France with various trees which grow in North America, selected him for this commission, and he departed on the 1st of September 1785.

He was charged in his instructions to proceed through the United States, for the purpose of collecting seeds, trees, shrubs and plants, and to establish a magazine for them in the neighbourhood of New York, whence they were to be sent from time to time to France. The park of Rambouillet was destined to receive them; it being the design of government to make one large central collection, whence the trees, &c. might be distributed. He was enjoined not to send them to any other quarter, with the exception of two packages, allowed to be sent annually, to M. le Monnier, and two to the *Jardin des Plantes*. He was also instructed to send game from America, which might be naturalized in plantations of trees, natives of their own country.

Michaux arrived at New York in 1785, in which city he fixed his principal residence during nearly two years, and established a garden in the neighbourhood. During this time he traversed New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Maryland; and in the first year sent twelve parcels of seeds, five thousand trees, and several Canada partridges, which multiplied greatly at Versailles.

In September 1787, Michaux departed for Carolina. Regarding Charlestown as a central point, from

* It was M. P'Heritier, who, in publishing the figure and description of this genus, has consecrated it to the memory of M. Michaux. The name of *Michauxia* has been adopted by Messrs. Aiton, La Marek, and Ventenat; and M. de Jussieu proposes to adopt it also in the new edition of his *Genera Plantarum*.

which he might make his southern and northern expeditions, and visit the chain of the Allegany mountains, he resolved to make that city his principal residence; and accordingly purchased a piece of ground, three leagues from the town, destined to be a nursery for the seeds and young plants collected in his excursions, intending to send to France such only as should thrive well, and were therefore preferable to those found in the woods. Whilst he made his excursions into the country, he left his son at Charlestown to superintend the culture of his nursery. He paid such attention to the art of packing to the best advantage, that he sent to France, in one case, several hundred trees, which arrived in perfect health, and in the utmost freshness. Every package was accompanied by instructions respecting the culture proper to each species of tree, and the various uses to which it was adapted. The correspondence on this subject was between him and the Abbé Nolin, director of the plantations.

In the month of April he departed on an excursion to examine the country near the sources of the Savannah, where he discovered *Magnolia auriculata*, *Azalea coccinea*, a new *Kalmia*, *Rhododendrum minus*, *Robinia viscosa*, various oaks, and several trees which, though not unknown to the botanists, had not yet been cultivated in our gardens.

Michaux, encouraged by these discoveries, resolved to extend his excursions to the very summit of the Allegany mountains. He therefore formed connections of friendship with the Indians, among whom he chose new guides, paying them part of their wages in advance, and promising them further gratuities on their return. Thus prepared, he ascended with his guides the rivers that fall into the Savannah.

In these uninhabited countries the forests are almost impenetrable, there being no other tracks than those formed by the bears. The bed of the torrents is the only route that can be followed: these must often be forded, or traversed on the trunk of a tree thrown across. On the banks

the traveller meets in some places with marshes in which he may sink, in others with thorny spreading plants: for sustenance there is nothing but the uncertain produce of the chase, or some harsh fruit accidentally met with. Michaux had lost two of his horses, and the third he reserved to carry his collection; and had he been even furnished with provisions, the savages had not sufficient command of themselves to manage the stock with prudence. In their honesty he placed much confidence, of which he had never reason to repent; but he was often annoyed by their want of tractability. It was absolutely necessary not to lose sight of them; and he was even sometimes compelled to run, that he might not be separated from them. "In the end he acquired all their boldness. Of all the Europeans they had known, they avowed that he had the most sense. "The people of your country," they would say, "are very ignorant: they do not know how to live in a forest; and, if they lose themselves in it, cannot find their way out."

When Michaux found a spot suitable to his purpose, he cut down the branches of trees, and constructed a little cabin, whence he made excursions in the neighbourhood; returning at night to his shelter, where he deposited the selections of the day. His Indians every morning proceeded to the chase, and returned in the evening to kindle their fire, and cook their game. It deserves to be noticed here, that they did not roast, but boiled all their animal food: it is more agreeable to the palate roasted; but when it is to be eaten without vegetables, after a few days it inflames the blood.

I will not here describe the dangers which our traveller incurred in these solitudes, where he was incessantly engaged in climbing rocks, or passing torrents; often upon the rotten trunks of trees, which crumbled beneath his feet; where a frightful darkness rests over the wilds, produced by the thickness of the branches interwoven with climbing plants, and still more by almost continual fogs, which cover these rugged mountains.

Michaux had found a new species of *Pavia*, of *Clethra*, of *Azalea*, of *Rhododendrum*; and thus animated by an enthusiastic love of his science, he did not even think of fatigue. Being arrived at the sources of the river Tennesse, on the other side of the mountains, he found a delightful plain of about a mile in extent, covered with delicious strawberries, of which he collected roots that have perfectly succeeded in France.

This was the extremity of his present excursion. He returned to Charlestown, where he arrived on the sixth of July, after having travelled

three hundred leagues across Carolina and Georgia. It was in the south of this latter province that he gathered a species allied to cinchona, which is used by the inhabitants of the country as a cure for fevers, and which with us may probably be very serviceable in medicine. This tree, which he has distinguished by the name of *Pinckneya pubens*, is hardy enough to bear the winters of our southern departments. It is at present cultivated in the garden of M. Cels, and in that of the Museum.

To be Continued.

DETACHED ANECDOTES:

VIRTUOUS SINGULARITY IN OPPOSITION TO PRIVATEERING.

DURING the American war, the Amazon privateer was fitted out by the merchants of Belfast on a joint subscription. One respectable merchant who had spent the early part of his life at sea as the captain of a trading vessel refused to join, but lent fifty pounds, the amount of a share, to the poor house to support the cotton manufacture, then carrying on, in its infancy; for the benefit of that institution. Such virtuous opposition to the general current is deserving of being preserved as a proper example, and as a distinguished mark of disapprobation against the vicious and anticommercial spirit of privateering.

Dr. Franklin recommended to the Americans to offer in all their treaties, that in case of future hostilities between them and any nation no countenance should be given by either parties to privateering. The article was only accepted by the Prussians, who were not much engaged in maritime pursuits. K.

MODESTY IN AUTHORS.

Herodotus writing of the voyage of a Phœnician vessel, which Nechos, king of Egypt, dispatched by the Red Sea, and which three years afterwards returned by the Mediterranean, says, "The Phœnicians related on their return that in sailing round Lybia,

they had the sun on their right: this story seemed to me by no means credible, but it perhaps may be believed by others." Later discoveries by a more accurate knowledge of the position of the earth have proved that the fact of which Herodotus doubted, really happened, but we have here an instance of his commendable modesty. Ancient historians and geographers, who were more presumptuous, as Strabo for example, have upon their imperfect knowledge, decided that the story was false. Such error is a useful warning to avoid pronouncing judgment from the dictates of prejudice, and with imperfect information. Many assume a habit of dogmatical assertion, to which they require implicit credit. They would frequently prove their prudence if not their wisdom, by exhibiting less positiveness and a greater willingness to doubt of their own infallibility. Many authors act like the French lady of whom Dr. Franklin tells, who in a little dispute with her sister very naturally exclaimed, "I do not know how it happens, sister, but I meet with nobody but myself that is always in the right."

FORTITUDE IN MEETING DEATH ACQUIRED BY FORCE OF EXAMPLE IN A MILITARY GOVERNMENT.

The ancient Scandinavians, or inhabitants of Denmark and Sweden,

had an extraordinary passion for war, which their laws, their education, and their religion tinctured by the phrenetic extravagance of Odin or Woden contributed to nurture.

Professor Mallet in his history of Denmark, informs us that Harold king of Denmark, who reigned about the middle of the tenth century founded a town on the coast of Pomerania, called Julin or Jomsburgh. Here he formed a colony of young Danes and appointed a person named Palaatocko governor. This new Lycurgus made another Lacedæmon of his settlement. The education of youth was solely directed to the object of making them soldiers. The colonists were prohibited from mentioning the word fear, even in the most imminent dangers. No inhabitant of Julin was allowed to yield to numbers. He was taught to fight intrepidly, without flying, however superior his enemy might be. The certainty of instant death only served to stimulate him to the combat. It appears that this legislator had succeeded in effacing from the breasts of the greater number of his disciples every sentiment of that passion so powerful and so natural, which makes us dread our dissolution.

Some Jomsburghers, who made an irruption into the territory of Hacco, a Norwegian chieftan, were vanquished, notwithstanding the obstinacy of their resistance. A number of the most distinguished of the party having been made prisoners, were agreeably to the custom of the times, condemned to death. This sentence instead of affecting them inspired them with joy.

One of them returned a remarkable answer, "I suffer willingly," said he, "and this moment affords me the greatest satisfaction. I only beg that my head may be cut off as quickly as possible. It has frequently been disputed at Julin, whether we retain any of our senses after decapitation; I shall therefore hold this knife in one hand, and if after I am beheaded I lift it up against you, that will prove I am not entirely deprived of understanding; if I let it fall that will be a proof to the contrary. Hasten then

and decide the question." Torchil cut the head off at one blow, and the knife fell to the ground.

Such calculation at the very point of death shows a self command that would be highly laudable in a better cause, and discovers the great degree of abstraction to which from education and the force of habit it is possible to attain.

It is however a subject of lamentation to the reflecting that the energies of the human mind, so capable of producing strong efforts in a truly virtuous cause, should be wasted in the destructive system of wars, whether of the savage or civilized mode of conducting them. In that line there is worse than a mere loss of energy, which, if directed to the cause of virtue or philanthropy, could produce much that is truly valuable. When will the benefit of the human race, instead of their destruction be the object of the true and enlightened hero? And when will the film of prejudice be so removed, that mankind will no longer pay honours to the destroyers instead of the benefactors of their kind? If the day of sound judgment and enlightened estimation ever arrive then the Bagshots and the Alexanders, the robbers, and the military heroes as it is fitting they should, will be classed together, and the triumphs of peace, and benevolence efface the trophies of the blood-stained banners of war. K.

ENLIGHTENED LEGISLATION.

It is fashionable to decry every thing that is American. Legislatures of countries boasting highly of civilization, and of their system of jurisprudence might receive profitable instruction from the following instance, recorded by Judge Bradford of Pennsylvania in his essay on capital punishments.

The crime of horse stealing became so prevalent in Pennsylvania during the confusions of the war, which interrupted the regular administration of justice, that the assembly thought it necessary to increase the punishment of it. They would have extended the penalty to death itself had not the late judge Bryan, at that time a member of the legislature (who to a sound understanding, added a fan-

liar acquaintance with all the philosophy of jurisprudence) strenuously opposed it. He made it evident to the good sense of the country members, who were intent upon this punishment, that the severity of the act would defeat its execution, and that a milder penalty would be a more effectual restraint. The subsequent experience of Pennsylvania compared with that of New Jersey (where in the same year the penalty of death was resorted to) fully proves the soundness of this opinion."

CERTAINTY BETTER THAN SEVERITY OF PUNISHMENT.

Facts afford substantial evidence, and avail more in argument, than the finest theoretical speculation. Horse-stealing has always been treated like the other kinds of simple larceny in New England and Pennsylvania: in all the states southward of Maryland, it is a capital crime. In the latter states the offence is as common as in the former, and in Virginia especially the effect is so feeble

that of all crimes this is the most frequent. In New Jersey, at first it was felony of death: in 1769 the law was repealed: it was again revived in 1780: but after a few years experience the legislature was obliged to listen once more to the voice of humanity and sound policy. The unwillingness of witnesses to prosecute, the facilities, with which juries acquitted, and the prospects of pardon, created hopes of impunity, which invited and multiplied the offence. Bankbills have been several times forged in the State of New York, where the offence is capital, but in Pennsylvania the crime has never been committed, although the act which made it capital was repealed several years ago. In Connecticut the forging of continental bills of credit, was not capital and yet few were guilty of the crime, while it was much more frequent in Pennsylvania during the period when they punished with death.

Bradford on criminal law.

ORIGINAL POETRY.

UNE ODE PAR FENELON,
ARCHEVÊQUE DE CAMBRAY.

MONTAGNES*, de qui l'audace

Va porter jusques aux Cieux

Un front d'éternelle glace;

Soutien du séjour des deux :

Dessus vos têtes cheuës

Je cueille, au dessus des nuës,

Toutes les fleurs du Printemps.

A mes pieds, contre la terre,

J'entens gronder la tonnerre,

Et tomber mille torrens.

Semblables aux Monts de Thrace,

Qu'un Géant audacieux

Sur les autres Monts entasse

Pour escalader les Cieux,

Vos sommets sont des campagnes

Qui portent d'autres montagnes,

Et s'élevant par degrés,

De leurs orgueilleuses têtes

Vont assipater les tempêtes

De tous les vents conjurez.

Des que la vermeille Aurore

De ses feux étincelans

Toutes ces montagnes dore,

Des tendres agneux belans

Errent dans les pâturages ;

Bientôt les sombres bocages,

Plantez le long de ruisseaux,

Et que les Zephirs agitent,

Bergers et troupeaux invitent

A dormir au bruit des caix.

Mais dans ce rude pàirage

Où tout est capricieux,

Et une beauté sauvage,

Rien ne rappelle à mes yeux

Les bords que mon fleuve arrose,

Fleuve où jamais le vent n'ose

Les moindres flots soulever,

Où le Ciel serain nous donne

Le Printemps après l'Automne

Sans laisser place à l'Hyver.

Solitude*, où la rivière

Ne laisse entendre autre bruit

Que celui d'une onde claire,

Qui tombe écume, & s'enfuit ;

Où deux îles fortunées,

De rameaux verts couronnées,

Font pour le charme des yeux

Tout ce que le cœur desire.

Que ne puis-je sur ma lyre,

Te chanter du chant des Dieux.

* Montagne d'Auvergne, où il étoit alors.

* Carême, petit Abbaye sur la Dordogne qu'il avoit alors.

De Zephyr la douce haleine,
Qui reverdit nos buissons,
Fait sur le dos de la Plain,
Flotter les jaunes moissons,
Dont Cérès remplit nos granges.
Bacchus lui-même aux vendanges
Vient empourprer le raisin ;
Et du penchant des collines,
Sur les campagnes voisines,
Verse des fleuves de vin.

Je vois au bout des campagnes
Pleines de sillons dorés,
S'enfuir vallois & montagnes
Dans des lointains azarés,
Dont la bizarre figure
Est un jeu de la nature.
Sur les rives du Canal
Comme en un miroir fidèle,
L'Horizon se renouvelle,
Et se peint dans ce cristal.

Avec les fruits de l'Automne
Sont les parfums du Printemps ;
Et la vigne se couronne
De mille festons pendans.
Ce fleuve aimant les prairies
Qui dans des îles fleuries
Ornent ses canaux divers,
Par des eaux ici dormantes ;
Là rapides & bruyantes,
En baigne les tapis verts.

Dansant sur les violettes,
Le berger mêle sa voix
Avec le son des musettes,
Des flûtes & des hautbois.
Oiseaux ! par votre ramage
Tous soucis dans ce bocage
De tous cœurs sont effacés,
Colombes & tourterelles,
Tendres, plaintives, fidèles !
Vous seules y gemissez.

Une herbe tendre & fleurie
M'offre des lits de gazon :
Une douce reverie
Tient mes sens & ma raison :
A ce charme je me livre,
De ce nectar je m'enivre,
Et les Dieux en sont jaloux.
De la cour flatteurs mensonges,
Vous ressemblez à mes songes,
Trompeurs comme eux, mais moins
deux.

A l'Abrides noirs orages,
Qui vont fondroyer les Grands,
Je trouve sous ces feuillages
Un asyle en tous tes lems :
Là, pour commencer à vivre
Je puis seul & sans jivres
La profonde verité ;
Puis la fable avec l'histoire
Viennent peindre à ma mémoire
L'ingenu l'Antiquité.

Des Grecs je vois le plus sage,*
Jouët d'un indigne sort,
Tranquille dans son naufrage,
Et circonspect dans le port ;
Vanqueur des vents en furie ;
Pour sa sauvage Patrie
Bravant les fots nuit & jour.
O ! combien de mon bocage
Le calme, le frais, l'ombrage,
Méritent mieux mon amour.

Je soute loin des allarmes,
Des muses l'heureux loisir ;
Rien n'expose au bruit des armes
Mon silence & mon plaisir.
Mon cœur content de ma lyre
A nul autre honneur aspire,
Qu'à chanter un si doux bien.
Loin, loin, trompeuse fortune,
Et toi, faveur, importune,
Le monde entier ne m'est rien.

En quelque climat que j'erre,
Plus que tous les autres lieux
Cet heureux coin de la terre
Me plaît & rit à mes yeux.
Là, pour couronner ma vie
La main d'une parque amie
Filera mes plus beaux jours ;
Là reposera ma cendre ;
La Tyrcist viendra, reprendra
Les pleurs dûs à nos amours.

TRANSLATION.

AN ODE, BY FENELON
ARCHBISHOP OF CAMBRAY.

YE mountains'† drear, that undergo
An everlasting winter's snow,
Whose tow'ring tops aspiring rise
With hideous height to prop the skies,
Above your heads, above the clouds,
Whose veil your awful summit shrouds,
I gather oft the prime of spring,
And o'er the earth's stupendous ball
I hear deep thunders murmuring
And a thousand torrents fall.

The Thracian mountains pil'd on high
Assay'd to reach the neighbouring sky,
When once the rebel-giants strove
To scale the blissful seats above,
Your summits thus compose a plain
Far greater mountains to sustain,
Which with fastidious grandeur rear
Their impious fronts to meet the sky,
And seem the tempest's rage to dare,
And all th' embattled winds defy.

Soon as Aurora's rosy hand
Diffuses brightness o'er the land,
And all these mountains richly dight,
Reflect the lustre of her light,
The tender lambskins bleat their love,
And through the verdant pastures rove,

* Ulysses.

† M. L'Abbe de Langeron.

‡ The mountains of Avergne where he often was.

The grove with unpierc'd shade im-
brown'd,

The stream which murmurs as it goes
Invite the flocks and shepherds round
To court the sweets of calm repose.

The landscape formed by nature's hand,
Where all is simple, all is grand,
Charms and suspends my ravish'd gaze,
From where my pensive river strays,
Which calm and undisturbed flows,
No wanton winds dare decompose,
The eye of heaven's unclouded ever,

No frowns of winter interfere,
The Spring from Autumn to discover,
Which reign triumphant thro' the year.

Beside my lonely hermitage *

A river roars with headlong rage,
It's sound disturbs the voice of song,
It falls, and foams, and pours along.
Two blissful islands bless the sight,
Whose waving woods the Muse invite,
My fancy kindles into fire,
At all the various scenes of spring,
Oh! for a hand to strike the lyre
To numbers such as Gods might sing.

The breath of Zephyr cheers the earth,
And calls our vernal bloom to birth,
He waves the golden harvest here,
And bids it crown the fruitful year,
Here see propitious Ceres stand
To swell our stores with liberal hand,
His blessings Bacchus self bestows,
And deep in purple dyes the vine,
While the delighted valley flows
With mountain floods of jovial wine.

The distant prospects claim the eye,
Where hills and vales successive lie,
The gilded furrows fade away
In objects more remote than they,
And hills and plains and vallies rise,
Half way to meet the bending skies,
The sloping skies with downward gaze
In smooth canals their image know,
And nature stands in deep amaze
To see another world below.

Here Spring and Autumn hand in hand
Strew fruits and odours o'er the land,
In long festoons the vine depends
And with its blushing honours bends,
The river stays in every Isle,
To see the happy meadows smile,
The smile reflected in his glass
When smooth and slow his waters glide,
Or swiftly to new beauties pass
And rudely lave th' enauiell'd side.

On violet banks the shepherd-swains
With dance and pasture glad the plains,
The voice of music flies around
With flutes' and pipes' and hautboys
sound,

Each warbling songster lends a lay
To banish sorrow far away.
Ye tender, plaintive, faithful doves
And turtles, ye alone complain,
While your deep murmurs fill the groves,
And tell your sadly-pleasing pain.

The earth to ease my weary head
Presents her soft and flowery bed,
Where oft my roving fancies fly
Beyond the reach of Reason's eye,
Such pleasing phrenzy here I prove
As Gods might envy from above,
So have I seen the courts of kings
With false and glittering splendours
shine,

But not in all those empty things
Delusion sweet can equal mine.

When thunders rend the bursting sky,
And earth's proud offspring trembling lie,
Beneath this shade I always find
A safe retreat from rain and wind,
Here heavenly taught enraptured look,
On truths divine in Nature's book,
Then turning to the letter'd age
The charms of fiction I admire,
Or from the old historic page
I learn to catch their living fire,

The wise Ulysses I survey,
The sport of fortune's fickle play,
How calm amidst the tempest's roar,
And how deliberate on the shore,
By night, by day he braves the main
To see his native rocks again.
Oh how my rebel fancy frames
Transcendent pleasures in the grove,
Oh how its gentle coolness claims
My admiration, praise and love.

Remote from every idle fear
The Muses deign to linger here,
No martial sound or voice of riot
Presumes to mar my peaceful quiet,
This care alone my heart employs
To sing the transports it enjoys;
Deceitful fortune, far away,
And thou tormenting love of fame,
This leads the impassioned world astray,
And that is but an empty name.

In whatsoever climes I roam
Remote from this my happy home,
No spot in all the world I find
So correspondent to my mind,
My sweetest days here let me lead,
While friendly fate prolongs the thread,
Then when my relics slumber here
Where once I took delight to rove,
Let Tyrcis* come and drop a tear
To friendship due and mutual love.

A.S.

*Carenac, a little Abbey on the Dordogne,
which he had then.

HYMN TO THE CREATOR;

TRANSLATED FROM THE FRENCH.

GOD! how richly art thou painted in
these vast heavens,
Thou whose traces we see every where!
How is it that thou hidest thyself from
our eyes,
But thou fillest the whole extent,
Man whom thou hast endowed with a part
of thyself,
How can he cease praising thee, in thy
works.
The sun is but an atom in comparison of
thee,
Thou guidest the stars by immutable
laws;
But we see but thy shadow in contem-
plating the heavens;
It is in the heart alone thou art really
found;
Reader the incense of this heart worthy
of thyself;
My song is incapable of grasping that
which is extreme:
I quit the attempt, *I quit the theme.*

R.S.

ON THE MUSE.

GREAT sources of pleasure the Muse can
unfold,
Which can neither be purchased with
silver or gold.
Her demesne is immense; no bounds can
contain
The space over which the sweet muse
holds her reign.
She has woods, she has lawns, rich vallies
and mountains,
She has serpentine rivers, lakes, and cool
fountains.
Unlike the *cross farmers* who always com-
plain,
Dry weather delights her as well as the
rain.
When the lightning gleams bright, and
loud roars the thunder,
She feels her heart beat with delight and
with wonder.
When the dark clouds retire, and the sun-
shine appears,
And nature looks smiling so soft through
her tears;
Then the green earth all glittering so fresh
and so bright,
Fills the muse with emotion, and gentlest
delight.
Or e'en in dull days when the sky is be-
clouded,
She blesses the being whose glories are
shrouded,
From the weak eyes of mortals who could
not endure,
Long time to be dazzled with brilliance so
pure.

E.

SONNET TO HOPE.

HAIL lovely Hope! with sweet delusive
smile,
Still dost thou say that soon my cares
shall end;
And though thou cheat me with deceitful
wile
I'll love thee still; thou art my only
friend.
Bereft of thee, ah! whither should I bend
My weary way; to what sequestered
isle;
Bereft of thee, where should I find a
friend,
The tedious hours of sorrow to beguile.
Never sweet Hope withdraw thy cheering
ray,
But soothe with gentle voice my drooping
heart;
Thy soft illusions to my breast impart,
And from thy suppliant drive despair a-
way;
My woe-worn soul on thee shall ever stay
For thou canst blunt Affliction's keenest
dart.

E.C

THE SUMMERHOUSE.

WHOE'ER admires the gilded dome,
The crowded street, the pageant view,
For pleasure need not hither come;
This summerhouse, tis not for you.
But come, you swains, whose taste refin'd
Can nature's beauties still admire,
And if you're not to nature blind,
Sure nature here your breasts will fire.
No cornices these walls bedight,
No paintings, gildings, here are found,
The walls bedecked with simplest white,
The roof with humblest thatch is crown'd.
Where'er you turn your longing eyes,
Unnumbered beauties meet your view,
The distant landscapes here arise,
The nearest scenes give pleasure too.
There, wood and water, hill and vale,
In sweet confusion seem to lie;
And all their blended beauties tell,
Here reigns beloved variety.
The garden though 'tis dress'd with art,
Will sure your breasts with pleasure fill,
Though taste shines forth in every part,
Nature though deck'd is nature still.
The gaudy may with jewels shine,
The diamond may their dress adorn,
I envy not the Indian mine,
Give me the rose, the scented thorn.
Give me yon polyanthus gay,
That sheds its odours all around,
Compared to yon sweet smelling pea,
The scents of India dead are found.

Hark to the music of yon thrush,
View yonder lark his pinions rise,
One warbles sweetly in the bush,
The other melodies the skies.
These are the pleasures of those plains,
These are the joys possess the fields,
Come, contemplate these various scenes,
This summerhouse that pleasure yields.

ANSWER.

The Hamadryads kindly greet
The Muse who sings so passing sweet
The fragrance of their bowers,
And when their infant arbours grow,
Design a garland for her brow,
Enrich'd with fairest flowers.

A.S.

TO FLATULENTA.

How blest the Mariner must be,
Who favour'd lovely Nymph by thee,
Should find you ever kind;
'Tho' he from pole to pole should steer,
Hence'er would want, while you were near,
A favourable wind.

For, as Ulysses in a sack
The winds most knowingly did pack,
To have a gale at hand;

So, pent within thy lovely form,
Just at his wish, a breeze of storm,
He always could command.

Ah! Zephyr, too, too boastful boy,
Can't you in silence bliss enjoy,
And let our envy cease;
What, tho' your moments joyous roll on,
Need you make Him and Colon,
So loud your brags to raise?

What tho' you rule each inmost part,
And you alone have touched her heart,
At least you might be modest;
Or, if your bliss you must declare,
Of all the sounds that strike the ear,
Why should you chuse the oddest?

Cupid has well repaid your care,
In bearing Payche through the air,
Up to his realms above;
For you he has touched that heart of stone,
And made those bowels all your own,
Which pity ne'er could move.

But proudly puffed up girl beware,
Tho' of a god you're now the care,
Zephyrus is deceitful;
The Deity may prove unkind,
Fly away and leave you behind,
Excessively ungrateful.

Nau—s.

FOREIGN LITERATURE.

PROFESSOR Græter, of Halle, the Apollodorus of northern mythology, is publishing a splendid work on this subject in eight numbers, each to contain six engravings of the largest folio size, on which the first artists are employed. The first number appeared at the last Easter fair. The subjects were: 1. The twelve Walkyres, as they are coming out of their grotto, and mounting on horseback to proceed, six to the south, and six to the north; 2. Walthalla, the habitation of Warriors, that have fallen in battle; 3. Freya, the goddess of love and conjugal fidelity, wandering in the deserts, shedding tears, and seeking her husband; 4. Niord, the god of navigation, and Skaden, the goddess of hunting, on the sea-shore; 5. Gefione, the goddess of virgin modesty, receiving the souls of virgins in her celestial palace; 6. The nymphs of the goddess Hertha, carrying their mistress on their hands. The price

of each number is to nonsubscribers six guineas, to subscribers who pay on delivery four, and to those who pay in advance three. A number is to be published every six months.

Doctor Lungsdorf, who sailed round the world with captain Krusenstern, was to set off from Orenburg, in August last, with a caravan, intended to visit the interior of Asia. He had previously prepared for the press, general observations on the countries and people he had visited, including every thing relative to natural history. An account of the voyage itself merely was to be given in a separate work by captain Krusenstern.

The first part of the annals of the *Wetteravian Society of Natural History*, founded at Hanau in 1808, has just appeared. The Society already counts above three hundred members, at home and abroad. It is a law of the society, that each member shall furnish it with an account of his

life, and a complete list of his writings.

M. Cassito lately published at Naples, thirty-two additional fables of Phædrus, under the title of *Jul. Phædri Fabularum Liber novus*. They are from a manuscript in the handwriting of Nic. Perotti, bishop of Manfredonia, in the fifteenth century, and form part of a collection of fables from Æsop, Avienus, and Phædrus, which he made for the use of his nephew. Beside the authority of the writer for it, there is sufficient internal evidence of their being genuine. Among them is an anecdote of Pompey.

Professor *Kurt Sprengel*, the celebrated historian of the art of physic, has composed a very valuable history of botany, *Historia Rei Herbariæ*, in two vols. 8vo. 550 p each, with plates. It is impossible for us to enter into his account of the plants he finds mentioned in the Bible, in Homer, Herodotus, and other ancient writers; of the life and writings of Theophrastus, the father of botany; and of the subsequent progress of the science down to 1778. To his first volume are added the following useful tables: 1. the Hebrew names of plants; 2. the Arabic names, as they are pronounced; 3. the Greek names; 4. the systematic names; 5. Synonymes; 6. names of authors.

Professor *J. S. Vates* has completed the second volume of *Adelung's Mithridates*, or *General Science of Languages*. It is 832 pages; it includes the various dialects of Europe, and is not inferior to the first volume, exhibiting proofs of great science, and extensive research, though some of the positions of the authors will no doubt be questioned. The third volume, including the languages of Africa, and America, is expected in the course of the present year.

The sixteenth volume of the *Transactions of the Royal Society of Sciences at Goettingen*, for the years 1804, 1808, 4to. 1808, p. gives an account, in a preface by M. Heyne, of the changes made in the society during that period, and ascribes to political events the delay of its publication. The preface is succeeded by a general view of the society, and its labours, from the

year 1751, when it was established. Then come the following papers, R. G. Richter on the cure of pulmonary consumption, by a surgical operation. M. R. quotes several cases, in which patients have been cured of an abscess in the lungs, by making an opening into it, so as to evacuate the matter. H. A. Wrisberg's anatomico-neurological observations on the Nerves of the abdominal Viscera, part three. Anatomical observations on the heart of the sea turtle, by the same. A live turtle being sent over to Goettingen for the table of the Princes Ernest Augustus and Adolphus, the author obtained the head and heart for his anatomical museum. A true representation of the human brain cut off at its base, with observations on the brain and spinal marrow, and a new method of filling the nerves, and also the vessels of plants, with quicksilver, by F. B. Osiander. The principal object of M. O. was to refute various opinions of Doctor Gall. On the perforation of the membrane of the tympanum, by C. Himly. Mr. H. recommended this operation for the cure of deafness, which has been practised with success in London by Mr. Astley Cowper, in his public lectures on diseases of the sight and hearing, given at Brunswick in 1797. Revision and illustration of certain genera of plants, by H. A. Schrader. These are *rudbeckia*, *pit-tosporus*, and *rivina*. On the nature and properties of arseniated hydrogen gas, by F. Stromeyer. The leading facts in this paper are noticed in Nicholson's journal, vol. XIX. p. 381. Specimen of a mutual illustration of natural history, and the works of ancient art by each other, by J. F. Blumenback. Fifth decade of his collection of skulls of various nations illustrated, by the same. Eulogy of J. F. Gmelin, M. D. and professor of chemistry at Goettingen, by M. Heyne. A physicomathematical essay on Haloes or Coronæ, by J. T. Mayer. On the chemical affinity of the heavenly bodies, being the first of a series of meteorological essays, by the same. The author is of the opinion of those, who consider gravitation, cohesion, chemical affinity, magnetism, and other attractive powers, as the result

of one and the same principle. New demonstration of an arithmetical Theorem, by C. F. Gauss. On the meaning of the words *Tenzil* and *Tawil* in books relating to the religion of the Druses, by A. J. Sylvestre de Sacy. On the religious institution of the Babylonians mentioned by Herodotus, l. 199, by C. G. Heyne. On the origin and history of the Afghans, by T. C. Tychsen. The Afghans assert, that they are descended from the Jews; the Polish Jesuit Krusinskius supposes them originally Albans of Mount Caucasus; but M. Tychsen thinks with Forishtah, that they sprung in a very remote age from the Hindoos. History of the office of chancellor in the universities of France and Italy, by C. Meiners. On the priesthood of the goddess Comana, and on the general agreement of religions on each side of Mount Taurus, by C. G. Heyne. On the trade and navigation of the Jews before the Babylonish Captivity, by T. C. Tychsen. History of the office of chancellor in the British and German universities, by C. Meiners. Attempt to illustrate some doubtful or obscure points in the history of mysteries, particularly the Eleusinian, by the same. Explanation of a terrestrial planisphere, executed with great skill before the middle of the fifteenth century, and now in the museum of cardinal Borgia at Veletri, with some remarks on the history of maps, by A. H. L. Heeren. The interpretation of the Mythic or Symbolical language, traced to its causes, its nature, and the rules deduced from them, by C. Heyne.

M. Bossi, in his observations on the sacro catino of Genoa,* published at Turin in 1807, mentions an opalescent cup in the collection of Messrs. Trivulzi of Milan, which was found in the Novarese in 1725. Though he admitted, that the ancients knew how to fabricate opalescent, or iridescent glass, he conceived the beautiful prismatic colours exhibited by this cup were owing to a decomposition

of the glass effected in the earth, the causes of which he gives. This opinion having been disputed in a periodical work, M. B. has defended it in a short pamphlet on some cubes of opalescent glass found on digging near the town house of Milan. He here notices other instances of glass buried in the earth, in which this effect had taken place, and inquires how long a time is necessary for it.

M. Clavier's history of the first ages of Greece, from Inachus to the fall of the Pisistratidæ, intended as an introduction to all the works that have appeared on the subject, with genealogical tables of the principal families of Greece, two vols. 8vo. is "learned performance. The early times of Greece were far from indicating, what that country would one day prove. Inhabited by a half savage people, it was indebted for the commencement of its civilization to the Phœnicians, an industrious nation who did not carry desolation, but an active life, into the countries where they intended to form commercial establishments. They taught the Greeks the art of writing, but a people enjoying in peace the fruits of their industry have little temptation to write their annals. Wars, or distant expeditions of importance, are necessary, to rouse the historian. Thus the voyage of the Argonauts, and the Trojan war, form two grand epochs in the primitive history of Greece. In the interval between these, appeared the celebrated persons, who gave a name to what we term the heroic ages of Greece. Some of these heroes, it is true, who had neither house nor home, called themselves the sons of some god or goddess; but they fought bravely, and extirpated many robbers and monsters. Their history is no doubt intermingled with many fables and allegories, but the ground work is true. It only requires patience and sagacity to correct them by a critical comparison with one another; and toward this M. Clavier appears to have done much. We cannot quit this article without translating one passage from the French reviewer, which; we must observe, was written in September last. "Events seem to

* A description and figure of this vessel, long supposed to have been of emerald, may be seen in Nicholson's Journal, vol. xviii. p. 97.

indicate as very near at hand the time, when the traveller may visit this fine country (Greece) with safety; when the earth may be searched into, and consequently important discoveries made. Monuments buried for two thousand years, and unknown inscriptions, will no doubt lift up a part of the veil, that hangs over learned antiquity. The discoveries made in Egypt, during the little time marked by the residence of our army, are a certain presage of what will be done in Greece, in that other classic land, when it is freed from the yoke of its tyrants, and shall taste the fruits of a wise liberty founded on the laws." The latter part of this quotation plainly shows, what were generally understood in the best informed circles, to be the intentions of the ruler of France.

In 1804 *M. Nicolas* was sent by the Italian Academy of Sciences to Paestum, to examine the fine ancient temples in that city, which, having been long neglected, were in danger of falling to ruins. While repairing these (not by hacking and stuccoing, we presume) he employed some persons to dig without the walls, near the north gate, and not unsuccessfully. The principal articles found were some cuirasses, resembling those described by Pausanias, when treating of the picture by Polygrotus; two helmets, one of which has the shape of the Spartan helmet, mentioned by Appian, when speaking of Epaminondas; some greaves, formed so as to protect the leg from above the knee to the ankle; all these are of brass; spears, arrows, and other articles of iron, in good preservation; and lastly some vases of brass and terra cotta. Some of the last were very beautiful and adorned with figure. Of all these *M. R.* purposes to give an account, and he has begun with an illustration of two earthen vases, large fol 19 p. and three plates, Rome. The explanation of these is by *M. Lanzi*. The subject of one is Hercules in the garden of the Hesperides, in the upper part are Minerva,*

* *M. Millin* observes, that this female figure has none of the attributes of Minerva, and over her head he finds the word

Mercury, Juno, and Pan. The names of Minerva and Juno, are written over them in the Doric dialect, and in a somewhat singular manner. Pan and Mercury are distinguished only by their features and attributes. In the lower part is a tree, with the word *assgerius* near it. This *Mr. L.* presumes to be the name of the fruit which he takes to be the Bergamot orange, because *Athenæus* says the golden apples of the Hesperides were esteemed for their fragrance, but were not eaten. Hercules, whose name is written, but, like the rest, incorrectly, is equipped with the lion's skin, club, and bow, consequently the vase is not so old as the time of Homer, but was made subsequent to the 33d Olympiad, when Pisander flourished, who describes Hercules thus in his *Heraclea*. Hercules appears resting on his club, and showing to Juno the apple he has just received. On the other side of the tree, are four nymphs, one of which, with the name of Calypso, is giving the serpent something to drink, as if to call off his attention from what passes on the other side of the tree. At her feet is a bird not very unlike a duck. Three other nymphs have the names Aiogis, Anthea, and Neisa. The fifth *Hermesa*, is gathering the apples, to give them to Hercules. At her feet is a swan. The painting bears the inscription *Assteas egraphu*. In another letter *M. Berio* makes some observations on the greaves and quivers found by *M. Nicholas*, with some general remarks on the tombs of the ancients, and where they were placed.

J. C. J. Bethe and *H. C. Roloff* have each published a Latin dissertation on the mines of Spain, worked by the ancients, illustrative of a passage in the third book of Strabo. They were written in answer to a question proposed by the university of Goettingen, and divided the prize.

In the *Zodiac explained*, or inquiries into the origin and signification of the Grecian sphere, translated from the Swedish of *C. G. S.* into

Donakis. He therefore, apparently with good reason, presumes her to be *Syrinx*, the mistress of Pan; *donax* in Latin being synonymous with *syrinx* in Greek.

French, much ingenuity and erudition are displayed. The object of the author is to show, that the twelve signs of the Zodiac, far from being the most ancient astronomical monument remaining, are only a rude dismemberment of the sphere falsely ascribed to the Greeks; that this sphere was invented about 1400 years B. C. by an inhabitant of a maritime city on the banks of the Caspian; and that it contains a system of geographical emblems relating to the countries bordering on the Caspian Sea and mount Caucasus, composed with a view to facilitate observations of the stars.

M. Philip Salzmann, of Montpeltier, has issued a catalogue of plants and insects of the south of France, with the reasonable prices annexed, for which he engages to collect and send them half yearly to amateurs.

Althesis has been published at Halle, under the name of *A. Babel*, on the structure and economy of grasses, in which the author first examines the natural system of Jussieu, and likewise what M. Desfontaines has advanced in the memoirs of the Institute on the structure monocotyledonous and dicotyledonous plants. The first he shows to have been erected on principles destitute of foundation; and he raises doubts respecting the arguments, with which the author of the *Flora Atlantica* has endeavoured to support it. The examination of the interior structure of the grasses, the functions of their organs and their chemical analyses, leaves nothing to regret but their brevity. It is said, apparently on good authority, to come from the pen of the celebrated professor Kurt Sprengel.

The report of the present state of ancient literature and history in Germany, made to the French Institute, by M. C. Villers, 8vo, 153 p. is a valuable work.

A new and correct edition of *Virtrivius* has been published at Leipsic by J. G. Schneider in three vols 4to. two of which consist of notes selected and original. The variety of subjects here illustrated, and the new views of things displayed, all of which show the hand of a master, will place this among the most valuable editions of classical authors.

In the year 1784, abbe *Sacchetti* conceived the project of forming a literary society at Sienna; but he was not able to accomplish his design till 1798, when in conjunction with Count de Vargas, he established one with the name of the *Italian Academy*. In 1799 appeared the first number of the first volume of a Journal of its transactions, in 4to; but the war and the troubles, that then arose in Tuscany, put a stop to it: in 1802, circumstances becoming more favourable, it began a new publication, under the title of *Annals of the Italian Academy*, but this extended only to four numbers. In 1805 it attempted a Magazine of Literature, Sciences, Arts, Political Economy, and trade, by the members of the Italian Academy. This continued only one year, but it contributed greatly to the introduction of the Merino sheep into Tuscany. In 1806 came out memoirs of the Italian Academy, class of literature, vol. 1; part 1, but this went no farther. In 1807 and 1808; some changes took place in the academy, and these were followed in the latter year by the first vol. of *Atti della Accademia Italiana*, 4to. 608 p. which we hope will meet the encouragement the perseverance of the academicians deserves.

The *Royal Society of Sciences at Haerlem* held its fifty sixth anniversary meeting on the 20th of May, 1809. The following are some of the questions, which not having been satisfactorily answered, are left open till the end of October 1810. 1. What have the latest observations taught us, respecting the influence of the oxygen of the atmosphere, either separately or combined with light, on the alteration of colours? And what advantages may we derive from these? 2. What truth is there in the indications of approaching seasons, or changes of weather, supposed to be found in the flight of birds, in the cries or sounds emitted at certain times by birds, or other animals, and in observations on animals in general? Has experience shown any of these in this country often enough to place any dependance on them? On the other hand, what common opinions in this respect are doubtful, or refuted?

ed by experience? And how far can we explain what has been observed by what we know of the nature of animals? 3. What is sufficiently proved by experience respecting the purification of putrid water, and other impure substances, by means of charcoal? How far can we explain on chemical principles the manner in which it is effected? And what farther advantages may we derive from it? 4. From what is known of the principles of the food of animals can we sufficiently explain the origin of the principles, or remote component parts of the human body, as, in particular, calcareous earth, soda, phosphorus, iron, &c.? If not, are they introduced from without into the body? Or are there any experiments and observations, from which we may presume, that some of these principles at least, though we can neither compose nor analyse them by chemical means, are produced by the peculiar action of living organs? If the latter opinion be adopted, evident proofs of the production of one of these principles will be sufficient. 5. What has experience sufficiently shown respecting the acceleration of the germinating of seeds by watering them with diluted oxymuriatic acid, which Humboldt first attempted; as well as other means that have been employed, besides heat and common manures, to accelerate the vegetation of plants in general, and the germination of seeds in particular? How far can we explain, by the physiology of plants, the manner in which these means act? What assistance can we derive from the present state of our knowledge in these respects, to guide us in farther researches into the means already employed, or others? And what benefit may we derive, from what experience has already shown and confirmed, in the cultivation of useful plants?

Among the new questions proposed for the same period by the Society are the following. 1. What is the reason, that the vegetation of plants is much better promoted by rain, than by watering with spring, river, ditch, or rain water? Are there any means of imparting to these waters that quality of rain, which promotes vegetation? And what are these means? 2.

What gramineous plants afford the most nutritious food for horses and horned cattle in meadows, in sandy, clayey, and marshy land? And how may these be best cultivated and propagated instead of less useful plants? 3. How far can we judge of the fertility of land, cultivated or waste, from the plants that grow spontaneously on it? And what indication may we derive from these, for improving it? 4. What opinion is to be formed of the fermentation termed panary? Is it a peculiar species of fermentation? What substances are susceptible of it? Under what circumstances can it take place? What are the phenomena, that accompany this fermentation from beginning to end? What changes do the immediate component parts of substances liable to it undergo? And what may we learn from these, to improve the art of making bread? 5. What do we know of the generation and economy of fishes in rivers or ponds, particularly those that are used for food? And what ought to be done or avoided to promote their multiplication? 6. What connexion is there between the external structure and chemical composition of plants; can the natural families of plants be distinguished by chemical characters? If so, what are they? And may they be employed to distinguish the natural families of plants with more certainty? 7. Are the moral principles, that are obligatory between individuals, binding between societies also? If so, what are the most convincing proofs of this important point? And how is the private obligation to be regulated in its more general extent? 8. To show from the writings of the ancient Greeks and Romans what knowledge they had of the physical sciences, that may be referred to experimental philosophy: and whether it be uncontestedly evident from their writings, that they had a knowledge of any branch of experimental philosophy, which is now lost?

For a satisfactory answer to questions 2, 3, 4, and 6, 30 duc. (£13. 17. 6) will be added to the usual prize. 50 duc. (£25. 2. 6) in addition to the usual medal, will be given to him, who, by new experiments, or former ones repeated, shall have reduced the ches-

mical analysis of plants to the highest degree of perfection; and shall give the completest account of the most suitable processes for the chemical analysis of vegetable substances, in all cases, in the most simple way, and at the same time most certain, so

that, by repeating the processes with care, we shall always obtain the same results. The ordinary prize of the society is a gold medal, or 30 ducs. (£13 17 6) and the papers must be written in Dutch, French, Latin, or German.

DISCOVERIES AND IMPROVEMENTS IN ARTS, MANU- FACTURES &c.

Patent of Mr. John Cragie of Craven-street, London, for an improved Kitchen Fire-place.

THE principal novelty in Mr. Cragie's fire place is the application of the sand bath to culinary purposes, which has hitherto been only used for those of a chemical nature. The directions given by the patentee for the construction of his fire place are as follows.

"A foundation or basis is to be placed in some convenient part of the kitchen of stone or brick, of about four feet long, by about two feet eight inches in breadth, and about twenty inches in height; at one end of which in front is to be placed the chimney grate eighteen inches wide and six deep.

"On the foundation in the centre at nineteen inches distant from each other, are to be raised two sides in stone or brick, the whole length thereof, about eight inches in height; on these sides is to be placed a pan of cast iron, of sufficient size to cover the whole, with rims to rest on the sides, but leaving a small space vacant (about half an inch) from each side below; the depth of the pan may be about five or six inches, and will be raised above the basis, so as to leave an aperture throughout of about an inch and a half; at the end of the furnace opposite to the fire grate the aperture will terminate in a flue of brick or iron, to convey the smoke into the chimney of the house, which flue should be furnished with a register or damper.

"A plate projecting from the lower end of the pan, will form the top of the fire place, of eighteen inches by six or eight; the sides will be formed

of fire brick; the back, of fire brick will ascend in a sloping direction towards the top under the pan.

"A frame of iron will be placed to receive the door or front, which will be in the clear about sixteen inches in width by about eighteen inches in depth; that is to say, to cover the ash-pit four inches, and about twelve inches above the grate for the fire place, in front of which there should be an inner grate five or six inches high; this door must have in the lower part of it, about an inch and a half from the bottom, a small door of about three inches wide, by two in depth, to furnish air through the ash-pit. When wood is used for fuel, the depth of the fire place may be twelve inches instead of six."

The purposes to which these fire places are proposed to be applied are thus stated by Mr. Cragie. "The iron pan being filled with dry sand will form a sand bath, with heat sufficient, according to the depth to which vessels are placed in it, for all ordinary purposes, and being well heated will retain the heat for a considerable time, especially if the doors are kept close shut; the plate at front will serve for boiling or frying; an oven for baking may be fixed at the flue; roasting may be performed to perfection before the door in front, even with the door shut. It will be found convenient to have the meat to be roasted, suspended from a moveable fire screen."

The principal advantage of this fire place, intended by the patentee, is that of diminishing the expenditure of fuel, by confining the heat, and regulating the access of air. He states the saving of fuel to be full two

thirds of that used in common fire places for the same effect.

Fire places on this construction are fitted up for public inspection at Messrs. Oddy and Mitchells, Holborn, corner of Fetter-lane, London.

Observations... This fire place possesses advantages which render it worthy of public attention. The use of the sand bath in kitchens, has long been thought deserving of experiment by competent judges, and probably would have been introduced before this, had not the dominion of those lower regions rested on persons remarkably jealous of interference, and singularly tenacious of old customs withal their rights and appurtenances. It is probable however that time may soften their rigour in this respect, when they perceive how the sand bath preserves the brilliancy of their sauce-pans unimpaired, removes all danger of burning the butter, and saves all that labour of polishing copper and tin, to which they have such a just abhorrence. In short, by the proper use of the sand bath the business of cookery may be rendered neat, cleanly, and free from all exposure to inordinate heat, that the most delicate ladies would find nothing to distress their susceptible nerves in performing them, but on the contrary might experience such amusement as could be a considerable resource on the ennui that consumes them, and against which they are at present obliged to employ so many miserable expedients.

On the sand bath, glass and china vessels may be used for boiling without any danger, by which some operations of cookery may be performed with peculiar advantage; baking also may be performed on the sand bath with great convenience, by merely placing the article to be baked on a slab at a proper depth, and covering over close with an earthen vessel. A few trials would soon show the proper way of managing the heat; and the only cautions necessary would be to avoid making prodigious fires, and not to spill greasy liquors on the sand on account of the bad smell which they would occasion.

Patent of Mr. John Penwarne of Pancras, near London, for a Method of giving to Statues and other Ornamental Works in Plaster (Gypsum) an appearance nearly resembling the finest Statuary Marble.

Mr. Penwarne thus describes his method of improving gypsum casts. "The principle of my invention is to impregnate the plaster cast with alum; in order to effect which I pursue the following process as being the easiest and best adapted for the purpose. A solution of alum in water is prepared in a proportion of about one pound of alum to every three pints of water (but is it not necessary to observe the exact proportions, as a greater or less quantity of alum will answer the intended purpose). The liquor is made to boil sufficiently to dissolve the quantity of alum put into it. The plaster cast, previously dried, and properly finished or cleared off, is then immersed in this solution, and suffered to remain therein from fifteen minutes to half an hour; it is then taken out and suspended over the vessel containing the solution; and having been suffered to cool for two or three minutes, according to the size and bulk of the figure, some of the solution is dipped up and thrown over it, or applied to it by means of a sponge or linen cloth, and which is continued till the alum forms a fine crystallization over its surface of a due degree of thickness; when it is sufficiently done it is set by to dry, and when it is perfectly so it may be brought to a degree of smoothness, or polish, by means of sand paper, or glass paper, and finished by being rubbed with a fine linen cloth slightly moistened with clean water. As most vessels of metal, except those of tin or lead, are liable to impart a stain to the liquor, I make use of wooden vats, which are conveniently heated by steam introduced through a leaden pipe from a boiler."

Casts managed in this manner possess the beautiful whiteness and transparency of white marble, at the same time scarcely yielding to it in hardness, and (for the purposes of interior decoration) almost equal to it in durability. They are not affected by

the moisture of the dampest apartments; and are even less liable to soil than marble, and are as easily cleaned. By means of this invention exact copies of the works of ancient and modern sculptors may be obtained, at a price not much exceeding that of plaster.

On the Muriate of Tin, by Mr. E. Berard, Ex-professor of Chemistry at the Medical School of Montpellier. Annales de Chimie, v. 68, p. 78.

The solution of tin by muriatic acid as directed by various authors, and as practised by Baume, is effected by pouring on one part of this metal, in a state of extreme division, four parts of common muriatic acid, and assisting the chemical action by the heat of a sand bath. The water serving as a vehicle, to the acid is decomposed; the oxygen oxidizes the metal, which then combines with the acid; while the hydrogen is evolved in the state of gas, carrying with it some particles of the metal employed, which render it very fetid. But the action is slow, and the dissolution is imperfectly effected. I have observed, that a very large portion of the acid is completely lost by evaporation, and that if you would dissolve the whole of the metal, you must not only add fresh acid, to supply the place of what is thus wasted, but keep up the action by artificial heat for several days. M. Berard, the author of this paper, tried to effect this operation in the cold, and two months were insufficient. Bayen and Charland, in their experiments on tin, employed as much as six months.

Mr. Chaptal assists the chemical action between muriatic acid and tin, by placing the metal, when he prepares the acid, in the jars of Woulfe's apparatus in which is the water to absorb the vapours. The heat that is evolved has an excellent effect, and the action becomes very brisk towards the end of the process. But this ingenious device leaves something still to be desired, as the acid dissolves only a fourth of its weight of tin, and the solution requires to be finished by other means.

The solution of tin is better effected by admitting into a large re-

ceiver, in which there is a sufficient quantity of the metal in a state of division, the vapours of muriatic acid evolved from a mixture of powdered murate of soda and sulphuric acid diluted to 40° of the areometer for acids. In proceeding thus by simple distillation, the vapours of muriatic acid are pretty easily condensed and combined with the tin.

If the vapours of oximuriatic acid be received into a vessel containing tin and common muriatic acid, the solution is effected completely, and in a short time. The acid at 20° will take up a third of its weight of tin.

The author tried various mixtures of muriatic and nitric acid, containing from a sixth to a tenth of the latter. They all acted on tin with extreme violence and heat, and the contents of the vessel were thrown out with violence, one part of nitric acid, or aquafortis of the shops, at 35° of Baume's areometer, and twelve parts of common muriatic acid at 20° form a mixture well adapted to the solution of tin, which it effects very well, and in a little time. This mixture takes up about a third of its weight of tin, and the solution is carried to 45°.

The author attempted to combine the alternate action of muriatic acid, and of atmospheric air on tin divided into small grains for the purpose of dissolving it, with complete success. With this view he filled a large wide mouthed glass bottle with finely granulated tin, covered the metal with muriatic acid at 20°, left this to act on it for a few hours, and then poured off the acid into another vessel; when it was found to have risen to 25°. The tin soon began to grow black from the contact of the atmosphere, absorbed oxygen from it and caloric was evolved, rendering the metal very hot. A lighted candle put into the bottle was quickly extinguished. As soon as the bottle began to grow cool, the acid was returned into it, which acted with fresh force, and in a little time got to 35°. He poured it off again, to let the air act on the tin, and then returned it into the bottle afresh; and thus continued proceeding alternately till

all action ceased. At the end of two days the solution had attained the strength of 45°. Indeed one day was sufficient for this, if a series of bottles supplied with tin were employed, so that the acid might be acting on the tin in some, while the air was acting on that in others; and by this continual action the strength might be carried even to 50°.

The muriatic solution of tin, when fresh made, combines pretty readily with the oxygen of the atmosphere, as Pelletier, Guyton Morveau, and other celebrated chemists have observed. It is sufficient to invert a jar, filled with atmospheric air, over a dish or wide mouthed bottle filled with this solution, when the solution will continue to rise in the jar, till the whole of the oxygen is absorbed. The absorption is more rapid if the jar be filled with pure oxygen gas; and nearly the whole of the gas will be taken up in a short time. To facilitate the combination of oxygen gas with the recent solution, the author caused a large quantity of atmospheric air to pass through it by means of a pair of bellows, the nozzle of which reached the bottom of the liquid. If the solution be not fully saturated with tin, it will take up a fresh quantity in proportion as it absorbs oxygen from the atmosphere.

Oximuriatic gas is eagerly absorbed by this solution, as Pelletier very justly observed. This learned chemist even proposed a solution to saturated for the purpose of dyeing scarlet; and the author prevailed on several dyers to make trial of it, but none adopted its use. It appears, that the combination of atmospheric oxygen with it imparts to it nearly the same properties as oximuriatic gas. When it has absorbed a great deal of oximuriatic gas, it is fit for dissolving a fresh quantity of tin, and when it has dissolved more tin its state is altered, and it is rendered again capable of absorbing oxygen gas.

The muriatic solution of tin at 45° yields crystals of muriate of tin by evaporation. The crystallization is effected more easily in proportion to the length of time the solution has been kept, or to the quantity of oxygen it has absorbed. The mother

water, in which the crystals are deposited is of great density, particularly after several crystallizations. Its density is still greater, if it be evaporated before its exposure to the air: it is sometimes even slightly fuming, and will then yield crystals on being diluted with pure water. A phial that would hold 14 parts (by weight) of distilled water, contained 28 of the mother water, after the first crystallization; and it held 31 parts, when the same liquid had furnished several crops of crystal, by evaporation. These mother waters are capable of combining with the oxygen of the atmosphere, if the solution be not previously saturated with it: and for this purpose it is sufficient to expose them to the air, or to force the air through them with a pair of bellows, as mentioned above for the simple solution. This combination occasions a fresh production of crystals, and if a very extensive surface of the mother water be exposed to the air, a muriate of tin crystallized in very thin and light scales will be obtained. Baume noticed this mode of crystallization. Oximuriatic gas combines with the mother water with much energy, a considerable quantity of caloric is evolved, and after it is cold it coagulates into a mass of silky crystals of muriate of tin. If the crystals of the muriate of tin be purified by dissolution in pure water and recrystallization, they will acquire more consistency and more density.

Crystallized muriate of tin is very soluble in cold water, the solution being quickly effected, and producing a considerable diminution of the temperature. The mean diminution in the experiments of the author was 9° of R. (20. 25° F.) The temperature of the atmosphere and of the substances employed being 5°. (43. 25° F.) The mixture of pure water with the mother waters produced no change in the temperature.

The author having observed that the mother waters became a little fuming by evaporation, tried the distillation of the mother waters highly concentrated, and of the crystallized muriate to see whether a muriate of tin would be obtained similar to

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that known by the name of the fuming liquor of Libavius. Weak muriatic acid first came over; and then the muriate either passed into the receiver, or sublimed into the neck of the retort in a white mass, known formerly under the name of the butter of tin. With the same view he passed muriatic gas as dry as possible through the concentrated mother water, of muriate of tin, when it became fuming, and yielded crystals on mixing with it pure water. But it must be observed that the fuming liquor of Libavius emits much more dense and copious vapours, that it is whiter, and that its specific gravity is greater.

The combinations of muriatic acid and tin in the state of solution, of crystals, or of mother water, have always an excess of acid; and from what has been said it appears, that they are all capable of infinite variations in their state. Hence we need not be surprized if the effect they produce in dying are so uncertain and so different from one another. The least variable state of muriate of tin appears to be that of crystals perfectly white and thoroughly drained. In this state this mordant ought always to be employed in dyeing, adding to it a larger or smaller proportion of nitric acid, according to the shade we wish to produce. Such a composition alone can be uniform, and yield constant results.

Profiting by the facts detailed in this paper, it appears easy to give a simple and advantageous process for preparing the crystallized muriate of tin in the large way, yet the author has met with very perplexing difficulties in the attempt to carry it into execution. These however he has at length been able to surmount, and the description of the method he pursued will form the subject of another paper.

Improved mode of preparing Phosphorus Bottles.

Phil. Jourl. Vol. 26. p. 105.

Phosphorus cut into small pieces, and mixed with quick lime in powder, answers the purpose very well. The phosphorus should be carefully dried by filtering paper; a thin slice being cut may be divided into as many pieces as can be expeditiously done,

and each piece be introduced into a small bottle with as much lime, as will surround it. Lime slacked in the air, and submitted to a strong heat in a black lead crucible for twenty minutes, is in a good state for the purpose.

The bottle, when full, may be exposed, corked, to the radiant heat of the fire, till some pieces of the phosphorus have assumed an orange tint: it will then be ready for immediate use. But the heating is not absolutely necessary, if the bottle is not wanted for immediate use, and it will continue longer in a serviceable state.

It is almost superfluous to observe that in using the bottle, the mouth should be closed with the finger as soon as the match is withdrawn.

The author of this paper has been in the habit of preparing a bottle by this method, at the conclusion of winter, for the purpose of lighting a lamp furnace during the summer months, when access to fire was not convenient. A narrow quarter ounce bottle has generally continued serviceable four or five months, though very frequently used.

Account of an Island containing 216 acres gained from the sea, by John Harriot, esq.

Mr. Harriot in his excursions in a boat which he kept for his amusement in the navigable river near which he lived, had frequently noticed a sunken island, containing between two and three hundred acres of land, dry at low water and covered at half tide. This island being put up to auction with other property of its owner after his decease, Mr. Harriot purchased it for £40, some others having bid for it contrary to the general expectation; this purchase was made in the month of May, and from that period he began to make preparations for embanking it from the sea.

He sent to the fens of Lincolnshire, and other places, for men suited for the work; and had a building framed for their accommodation, and erected on the island high enough to prevent the tide from flowing into it, kept a boat to attend it and employed a man to keep a kind of sutling.

booth in it to supply them with good London porter. The building also afforded them shelter in bad weather, and was so constructed as to serve for a stable when the work was completed.

In July 1781, a beginning was made, and in December following a wall or embankment of earth was raised thirty feet thick at its base, battering away at an angle of 45 degrees towards the sea; eight feet high and six feet thick at the top. The foundation on which the wall was fixed was more than two feet above the level of the rest of the island; it was more than two miles and a half in circumference, and was carried over several deep rills or outlets. The work had hitherto gone on with rapidity and safety. The two ends of the wall were only 140 feet apart; but here the difficulty commenced, for this space was occupied by a ravine through which the tide ebbed and flowed, with a current and fall similar to that which passes through the great arch of London bridge, but stronger. Mr. Harriot had contracted with two men for the execution of the work, and at this critical time strove to prevail on the contractors to use some strong timber in closing the interval, which he offered to furnish to them exclusive of his agreement: but they obstinately refused, persisting in asserting that they could do better without it.

The effect of this obstinacy was what might be expected; the greatest exertions were made by the men, to fill up the interval, inasmuch that by the actual measurement of some of their work, no horse could have carted away as much loam as one man dug and another wheeled away at that time; but it was all in vain, for want of the timber recommended to strengthen and support it, the weight of the earth above as fast as it was laid on at top pressed out that at the foot, so that on the sixth tide, after shutting out the sea, all this great body of earth was swept away, with scarcely a vestige of it to be seen; and the difficulty was increased ten fold, on account of the greater distance from which it was now necessary to fetch earth to fill up the breach.

The contractors applied for more money, but having already got more

than what was stipulated, Mr. Harriot very properly refused them; on which they ran away £125 in debt to the labourers.

The sea wailers are remarkably desperate and uncontrollable, which added much to the embarrassment of Mr. Harriot's situation; nevertheless by steady resolution he prevented all attempts at riot, and got them to depute three of their number to treat for completing the work; with whom he agreed to pay them the same prices as the contractors had done, and to farther stimulate them to exertion he promised voluntarily besides to make good their loss by the contractors on their succeeding finally in effectually shutting out the tide. The season which was January was much against the work, and the timber necessary was to be felled thirteen miles distance; Mr. Harriot however had several trees cut from ten to fifteen inches in diameter, with which having made piles from twelve to twenty-four feet in length, he drove them with an engine, in two rows, fifteen feet apart across the outlet, as close together in the rows as they could be driven. These piles were farther secured by girders, or beams, bolted and keyed across them, within five feet of the bottom and three of the top. This formed a coffer dam to hold the earth in the center of the mound, as a strong support to the whole.

On the seventeenth of January, this coffer dam was filled up with earth, and the sea completely shut out, but as the tide was rising every day it was necessary to keep the men at full work for some time in raising and strengthening the bank and also to keep some of them in readiness each night to watch the effects of the tide. By these means Mr. Harriot enclosed the island from the sea, and so far proved the practicability of the undertaking. His description of closing the work (in his publication called *his struggles through life*) is very animated, and well worth the perusal, particularly of those who have similar undertakings to execute; he concludes this part of the account by the following remarks on the management of the land after enclosing it which deserve peculiar attention.

"Too eager to reap the fruits of my enterprize I rushed into an unprofitable expense of ploughing the greatest part of the land before it was fit. I thought to have sweetened it the sooner by working it and exposing it to the various elements, but I was deceived. If I had left it to its own operations of drying, cracking, and getting rid of the superabundant salts, by a gradual draining from the rain, &c. and been content with a small produce from feeding of sheep for a few years, I should have done much better."

Mr. Harriot soon after a heavy loss by the burning of his dwelling, had the misfortune to be deprived of his island again by the sea, of which he gives the following account in a letter to Mr. Moore, then secretary to the society of Arts, dated February, 1791.

"It was no longer ago than the 17th of March last that I had the misfortune to have my house, barn, and out houses, all burnt down, with difficulty saving our lives. My loss from this above my insurance was great to a man who could never boast of affluence, yet I looked forward with a pleasing confidence. My island so lately embanked from the sea was beginning to repay me bounteously: it cleared me £300 the last year, with a promising appearance of great income for years to come, I had rebuilt my house and got my family together again.

"In this situation of my affairs, the second of this month produced a tide on our coast, higher by a *foot* than was remembered by the oldest man living. My island fell a victim to its ravages; above one fourth of the wall, or bank, had settled nearly a *foot* more than the rest; this was *intended* to have been raised eighteen inches last summer, if my loss by fire had not obliged me to defer it. This delay occasioned the loss of my island; the tide flowing seven or eight inches deep over one hundred and fifty rods in length of the bank, flooded the whole island. At the fall of the tide I found my island left full of water, too fatal a proof of the strength of my banks, though it satisfied me there was no breach.

"By extraordinary exertions (the

more so from the harrassed situation of my mind at the time) I drained the water four feet below the surface of the land in a few days. I then had the walls surveyed, and an estimate made of what it would require to repair them, and secure the island from a similar accident. This amounted to £300 at least. I had it not, and could not think of borrowing without a greater certainty of payment than I could pretend to."

Mr. Harriot at this juncture thought it most honourable to lay the state of his affairs before his creditors, who were so well satisfied with his conduct, and felt so much for his misfortunes that they cheerfully relinquished half their claims, and contributed handsomely besides to a subscription, which was set forward for his relief, by which £1017 was soon collected, when he thought it best to put a stop to it by publishing a letter on the subject, as his design was only to recover his losses, not to make an enolument by the generosity of the public. This sum enabled him "to recover and secure the island against such outrageous tides in future;" besides settling immediately with all his creditors.

The growing crops that looked so promising before the inundation were totally destroyed. Mr Harriot ploughed some of the land, as soon as it was in condition to bear the horse, and sowed a few oats, and a little mustard seed, to try the vegetative powers of the land, and ascertain the effect which the salt water had produced. But the ground was so much saturated with the salts, as to require the same time, labour and expense as at first, to bring it round to the state of vegetation in which it was before the inundation.

He repaired, and heightened the sea wall all round the island, and ploughed up and fallowed as much land as he could. Those seeds which he sowed at first came to nothing, and the crops of the succeeding year confirmed his apprehension that he should have nearly the same tediousness and expense to go through, as he had before experienced, if he should farm it himself: for this and other reasons he sold his interest in the island, along with the rest of his

fixed property, and removed to America; the account of which removal, and of his return is very interesting and instructive.

Mr. Harriot states in concluding the account of the island, that in the year 1807 it had recovered from the effects of the inundation; and in the hands of the present occupier produces as good wheat as any in the country.

The above account has been extracted from Mr. Harriot's *struggles through life*, a few more particulars relative to the island may be found in the fourth volume of the transactions of the Society of Arts, who voted him their gold medal for enclosing this island from the sea; it is there mentioned that the island is situated between great Wakering in Essex, and Foulness island, and is called Rushy; and that the piled part of the bank, which closed the work, extended at the foot one hundred feet towards the sea, and fifty towards the land, and was seven feet wide at top, and was somewhat higher than the rest of the bank. It is also mentioned that the gutter, or trough, which carried off the water, that drained from the land, through the bank, was made of elm, and was fifty feet long, eighteen inches wide, and twelve inches deep, with proper lids at each end, to let the water in or out at pleasure; it was placed three feet and a half below the surface of the earth. Mr. Harriot observes that a great mistake occurs in the formation of most gutters, or troughs, for this purpose; in general they are made square, or nearly so; yet there is no comparison in the discharge of water from a flat gutter, of the same number of square inches with a square gutter.

Observations.... The great quantity of land, favourably situated, for embankment from the sea, which lies in the vicinity of Belfast, has led to the supposition that the foregoing extracts would be both useful and interesting to many of our readers. It is extraordinary how much property has been lost in attempts of this nature, from a false economy; the saving of a foot of embankment at the top, where its little width

would render the expense trifling, has often been the cause of the loss of thousands of pounds in other cases, as well as this. The misfortune Mr. Harriot met with, very well excused this omission on his part, but in many cases that could be mentioned, neither time nor property were wanting, and yet the same fatal error was made. Might it not for this reason be a proper precaution? when the great bank in such works was raised as high as the highest spring tides were known to reach, to construct another smaller bank above it three or four feet high, like the back of a common ditch (in the same manner as the parapet is raised above the rampart in fortification) in order to insure the safety of the whole: this would be no great addition to the expense, and considering the money it would cost, as laid out for the purpose of insurance, probably it would not amount to as much as the fee simple of the sum, which it would be necessary to pay annually for insuring property of equal value in buildings, from fire. This small bank lying above the reach of the salt water, might be entirely covered with vegetating sods, which would perfectly secure it from being washed down by rains, and make a permanent termination to the whole; where stone was plenty it might be faced with this material towards the sea, in the same manner as the excellent fences usual in the county Louth, which are so durable; and this would have the advantage of admitting this small bank to be made narrower below, which in some cases might be desirable, as stone does not require to be sloped as earth does.

Some useful considerations also arise from the above accounts, relative to the agricultural management of land gained from the sea. It appears that Mr. Harriot thought it would have been better if he had not broken up the land after it was drained; in this case there can be no doubt but that a small part near the surface would become productive sooner, as the salt would be speedily washed from it sufficiently to admit of the vegetation of the grasses with short roots; but then the salt would be retained longer below, and the period when deep

rooted vegetables might be raised in it to advantage would be proportionally remote; might it not be advantageous to select those vegetables for the first crops, which are known to thrive in a salt soil? several of this nature, from which soda is procured, are cultivated to advantage in foreign countries, and would also succeed well here; some plants also which afford abundance of potash flourish in the vicinity of the sea. Rape likewise has been known to succeed on lands of this nature. It is probable also that certain substances laid on the land would accelerate the decomposition of the salt; of those, lime is the most obvious, as well as the most easy to procure. But, where plenty of fresh water can be had, which is the case in most situations near the sea in Ireland, it seems most consonant to reason, that frequently flooding the salt ground with fresh water from the neighbouring brooks, and again draining it off, would free the land from the salt with more expedition than most other methods, and therefore that at least it deserves to be tried in a free and impartial manner.

As the embankment of land from the sea is evidently a subject of great importance, it is intended to select papers conveying farther information respecting it, for the future numbers of this miscellany.

Mr. Harriot is now magistrate of the Thames police, an establishment planned by himself, where he still continues those useful exertions for the public benefit, which have so frequently graced his eventful life.

Farther account of the Action of De Luc's Electric Column.

The small bells, moved by De Luc's electrical column, which have been noticed in our last number, still continued to ring on the 25th of June, as they had done since the 25th of March. Those who wish to have electrical columns of this kind, fitted up in the form of rods, as described in our number for April last, may now obtain them from Mr. Blount, optician, Cornhill, London.

An account of the Method of manufacturing Salt at Moutiers, in the Department of Mont-Blanc. By M. Berthier, Mine Engineer.

Journal Des Mines.

The springs which supply these salt works are about a chilometre (rather more than half a mile) from the town of Moutiers, in the centre of Salins, a small village near the junction of the two rivers Doron, in a valley of the same name. The springs issue from a limestone rock, at the foot of a precipice fifty metres (yards) high, adjoining to which is a formation of gypsum. They probably rose formerly to the surface of the ground, but at present those which are worked are seven metres below it. The present works are of some standing, and were probably erected in 1730; but their books were lost at the time of the invasion of the Spaniards in 1743. The ancient Earls of Salins had also extracted salt from another spring in this neighbourhood, the water being brought up by an endless chain of buckets, running over a wheel, in which women walked. It was concentrated by being poured repeatedly upon bundles of straw, and then evaporated in boilers. This spring was destroyed in the war of 1690.

The temperature of the water of these springs is from 25° to 30° Ream. or 88° to 99° Fahr. It emits many bubbles, and shows from 1° 50 to 1° 83 by Baume's hydrometer, which is used in all the French salt-works, and of which the degrees are equal to one fifteenth of the stem between the level to which it sinks in distilled water, and which is taken for the point whence the degrees are reckoned, and that to which it sinks in a solution of fifteen parts of muriate of soda in eighty five of water at 10° Ream. or 55° Fahr.

100lbs. of the spring called the little spring, contains only 1.058 of muriate of soda, 0.251 of sulphate of lime, 0.1 of sulphate of soda, 0.076 of carbonate of lime, 0.075 of uncombined carbonic acid gas, 0.055 of sulphate of magnesia, 0.0305 of muriate of magnesia, 0.012 of carbonate of iron, and 0.01 of muriate of iron.

Since 1755 the springa yield more water than before, but it is not so rich. They stopped running at the time of the earthquake at Lisbon, and remained in that condition for forty-eight hours, but afterwards flowed as usual.

The present mode of working them is nearly the same as was introduced into Savoy in 1730, by the Saxon miners, which were sent for by the king of Sardinia. The water is conveyed from the spring to the salt-works at Moutiers in wooden troughs, about nine inches wide, in which a considerable quantity of oxyd of iron and carbonate of lime is deposited, so that the troughs, which are about a chiliometre in length, are obliged to be frequently cleaned out. Green filamentous plants grow in them, and these rotting, impregnate the water, so that it smells very disagreeable till the gases are dissipated during the course of the graduation. When the water arrives at the works it marks $1^{\circ}.5$ or $1^{\circ}.6$ by the hydrometer. It still retains much carbonate of lime, and a little carbonate of iron, and has not deposited a single atom of the sulphate of lime.

As fuel is too dear to allow the water to be evaporated immediately, it is passed through several graduation-houses, in order to concentrate it, and to get rid of some of the salts with which the muriate of soda is mixed.

The salt work has, for this purpose, four sheds with faggots, and a fifth with ropes. The former were built in 1730, by Mr. Beust; three, which were destroyed in 1766, were rebuilt in 1781. The fifth was not built till 1788, by the Chevalier Dubutet, who invented it.

The water, divided into two parts, passes partly through the shed No. 1, and partly through the shed No. 2. The two portions are afterwards re-united and concentrated in the shed No. 3; and thence it is conveyed to No. 4, and afterwards into the boilers. In the bad season, when it comes from No. 4, it is raised up to the rope-shed, which cannot at that time be employed for another use, of which hereafter, and thence it is conducted to the boilers.

These sheds are disposed in such a manner as to receive all the wind which passes through the Gorge d'Aigue-blanche. They are built nearly directly across the most usual direction of the current of the air, and rather inclined to one another, so as to impede the current as little as possible. By means of this arrangement, some of them receive the advantage of the air that comes from the valley of Doron; but the mass of that air being inconsiderable, and its velocity small, it does not produce much effect.

The shed, No. 1, is 330 metres (yards) long, and built upon three rows of stone pillars. It is divided into two equal parts by the shed that contains the pumps. The whole mass of it is wood-work, and is entirely filled with faggots, that form a kind of continuous wall. It is eight metres in height, and is three metres broad at bottom, and two at top.

The water is raised to the top of the building by means of eight pumps; the handles of which are fixed at the two ends of a lever, put in motion by a water wheel. The machine is well contrived, and is furnished with segments which produce a motion without shocks, or any considerable friction: and if any inequality is observable in the velocity, it depends upon the nature of the plain handles, and probably on a defect of equilibrium between the two sets of pumps.

The water, alternately pumped up by each set, is thrown by one set on one division of the building, and by the other on the other division. The four first pumps take up the water from a small wooden cistern that receives the water from the spring, the others from a second cistern, into which the water that has already passed once through the first division of the building is received. The water is distributed by means of two rows of gutters, placed on the sides of the building; each row throws the water upon one side only of the building, and they are used alternately, as the wind blows on one side or the other. It is the side exposed to the east that the wind most generally blows upon; the opposite row of faggots seldom serves for any other purpose than to catch the spray, and

thus prevent any loss. The gutters are furnished from metre to metre with smaller gutters, whence the brine is conveyed in still smaller gutters, a decimetre (three inches) broad, and which have small indentures on each side, a decimetre from each other, to allow the water to run over upon the faggots. The brine that comes from the first division marks 2° hydrom. and is raised up to the top of the second as often as is necessary to bring it to 3° . In fine weather, this is performed by one raising. The deposit that it forms is very slight, and the faggots being thus exposed for a long time to the action of air, and the brine being very weak, speedily rot. Whence the bad smell that the brine receives from the canal in which it has flowed is augmented; and this is also the source of the vegetable extractive matter that the saturated brine contains. It has been remarked, that the ochreous calcereous deposit is only formed between 2° and 3° hydr.

The building No. 2 has the same destination as the preceding. It is also divided into two divisions by the hydraulic machines. It is 318 metres long, of which only 262 are furnished with a double range of faggots; the remainder is taken up with uprights of masonry, which support the girders four by four, and render buttresses unnecessary. It is supplied with brine by eleven pumps, five for the first division and six for the second; these last also convey the brine to the building, No. 3, which lies higher. The piston rods are fixed two and two at the ends of the strong balance-wheels of carpentry, put in motion by a water wheel. This machine is very heavy, and ill contrived; but as water is abundant, it produces the desired effect. The brine from No. 2 is generally stronger than that of No. 1, because it has run farther in the canal by which it is brought to the work. The building itself is also 9 metres high, and it is also much more exposed to the wind from the Gorge d'Aigueblanche.

No. 3 is 350 metres long; of which 340 are furnished with faggots to the height of 8 metres. It is entirely composed of wood-work, and

covered with a roof three times as broad as the building which completely shelters the faggots. Every second girder is supported by wooden buttresses upon a base of masonry. Timber is employed in profusion for its construction.

This shed comprehends seven divisions through which the brine collected from Nos. 1 and 2 are passed in succession. The first is about sixty metres long, and is supplied by two pumps; the second the same; the third fifty-five metres with two pumps; the fourth forty-eight metres and two pumps; the fifth forty-two metres and only one pump; the sixth thirty-six metres and one pump; and the last thirty-five metres and one pump. The water wheel which serves to put the whole machinery of the pumps in motion lies along the middle of the building. The distribution of the different parts of this machine is well conceived, but the workmanship of it having been carelessly performed the friction is so very considerable, as to obstruct its motion, and make it require frequent repairs.

The brine before it is passed through No. 3, marks 3° or $3^{\circ}5$ hydrom. In fine weather it is only passed once through each division, and marks when it has passed through the seventh, 10 or 12° . When the weather is not favourable, it is passed through them as often as is necessary, so that it may attain at least 9° . It is then sent to the building No. 4.

This building No. 4, is sixty two metres long, of which fifty-five are furnished with faggots, ten metres high, and four broad at the bottom. It is strengthened every fifth girder, with pillars of masonry, without buttresses. It is covered, but its roof, which is much less wide than that of the preceding is supported by these pillars. A water wheel puts in motion four pumps. This wheel like those of the other buildings is between seven and eight metres in diameter, and the pumps are from fourteen to twenty two centimetres ($5\frac{1}{2}$ to $6\frac{1}{2}$ ins.) in diameter.

Two of these pumps convey the brine to the top of the building, the two others convey the brine after it is graduated into cisterns made on pur-

pose. As the brine is pretty rich when it is brought to this building, a double set of gutters are used, which pour it on either side according to the direction of the wind, in the middle of the breadth, so that the brine runs among the timbers, and it is less dispersed in the air.

In the most favourable weather for graduation, the brine is concentrated as high as 21° or 22° hydrom. upon this building, No. 4, most commonly to 18° , and only from 12 to 14° in winter or autumn. In this case it is conveyed on the building furnished with ropes to bring it to 16 or 18° .

The situation of the ground did not allow this ropeshed to be built in a straight line: it is rather bent, and principally receives the wind from the valley of Doron: nevertheless one part of it also receives that from Aigueblanche, and here the graduation goes on the quickest. The whole length of the building is ninety metres, of which only seventy are furnished with ropes. The carcase is composed of seven large girders upon masonry, and seventeen others on uprights of carpentry. It has an irregular roof, which spreads out a great deal on the side to which the wind usually carries the brine. The interval between each girder comprises twelve gutters 0.13 metre (5 inches) in breadth, and the same distance from each other. These gutters are pieces of wood slightly hollowed, each of which supports twenty-three endless ropes, from between 0.007 and 0.008 metre (1 3rd inches) in diameter: these ropes pass through holes made for that purpose, and are fixed to pulleys that are ranged in the lower part of the building. Thus each gutter carries forty-six lengths of ropes, and as there are in all 259 gutters, the building is furnished with 11914 ropes; now as each of these ropes are 8.24 metres long, it follows that it required more than 100,000 metres, or seventy five miles of rope when the building was first constructed.

The machine that raises the brine is an endless chain of buckets moved by a water wheel. It is composed of three double chains, to which are at-

tached a triple row of wooden buckets. The brine raised by these buckets runs into a small basin from whence it runs through a canal that passes along the middle of the building; from hence it runs into other canals which lie between each girder, and from thence it is distributed by twelve gutters, into those which support the ropes. Lastly the notches made over the ropes allow it to pass along them. The surplus that is not evaporated dripping upon the inclined boards that form the floor of the building, is collected in troughs which convey it either to the cistern belonging to the machine, so that it may be again raised, or to cisterns made on purpose to receive it, and placed all along the length of the floor. The evaporation by means of these ropes is much swifter than that caused by the faggots, as the air circulates more freely, and exercises its action upon a greater surface.

The overseers complain of the slight effect of the machine in raising the brine, of its expense, and of the continual repairs that it requires. Nevertheless it is proper for the purpose, as pumps could not be employed. The real inconveniences are 1^o that the chains are too slight to resist for any length of time the force that is required; 2^o that the bucket way is too small, so that oscillations of the chain throws the buckets continually against the sides, by which means they are bruised. 3^o In that the drum wheels are too small, by which the buckets are bruised against the partitions that separate the three chains. 4^o Lastly, that the chains do not use the drum-heads, equally, as they do not turn constantly in the same plane, but fall by starts from one cavity to another, and derange the machine. Their movement ought to be regulated, and they should be made to turn upon a band furnished with solid points. More brine would be raised if the buckets only rose from the basin at the depth of the centre of the lower drum; they would also lose much less brine if their open mouths were longer, for in their present state, the brine of the bucket that is being emptied, falls

upon the bottom of that which preceded it, is scattered about, and does not reach the destined spot.

This rope shed is furnished on the

side on which the wind most commonly blows with canvass blinds or rollers, and these are let down in very beating weather.

LIST OF NEW PUBLICATIONS.

RELIGION.

REMARKS on the version of the New Testament, lately edited by the Unitarians; by the Rev. Edward Nares, 9s.

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NOTICE OF A FUTURE PUBLICATION.

Wishing the Benevolent Plan, which this Work is intended to promote, may be more generally known, we gladly announce the following Prospectus of a New Work, entitled the Philanthropist, to be published once in three Months, Price Half-a-crown.

The object of this work is to encourage benevolent feelings, and to show how they may be most beneficially exerted, particularly by pointing out to those who occupy the middle and superior ranks in society, the results of such endeavours as have proved successful in alleviating the miseries of man, and improving his moral character.

Many who have the power of doing extensive good, are too frequently discouraged from attempting it, for want of knowing the precise direction in which their efforts might prove efficacious; such characters may be assisted by the Philanthropist, as it will contain details of many Charitable Institutions, not only in the United Kingdoms, but upon the Continent, and more especially of those for the education of the poor, the direct tendency of which must be, to diminish the number of crimes, and to exalt the moral character of a nation. The means used to evade the operation of the Act for Abolishing the Slave Trade, as well as the legal measures which may have been successfully employed to counteract them, will be duly noticed—the efforts of the Institution for the civilization of Africa—the attempt so successfully making for the same purpose among the North American Indians—the subject of Prison Discipline, and the effect of Capital Punishment upon the moral character of a People, will form an important part of the proposed undertaking.

Such extracts from the works of respectable travellers, will be occasionally introduced, as give a just picture of man in his uncultivated state; and from the connections of those persons who are engaged in this work, the Philanthropist may be expected to contain a number of

original Essays and Communications. It is hoped, that the whole will form an interesting publication, having but one object, that of promulgating whatever may be calculated to strengthen the band of society, and promote universal benevolence.

The profits of this work will be appropriated to the promotion of plans for the general education of the poor.

Those who are disposed to encourage this undertaking are requested to send their address to the Publishers, *Longman and Co. Paternoster Row*; *J. and A. Arch, Cornhill*; *Darton and Harvey, Gracechurch Street*; *W. Philips, George Yard, Lombard Street*; or *Arch and Waring, Belfast*.

MONTHLY RETROSPECT OF POLITICS.

IN a recapitulation of the passing events of the month, and a short survey of our domestic situation, the most prominent event as more nearly affecting our immediate interest may be reckoned the present difficulties in the commercial world, arising from the numerous and extensive failures, which have occurred both in Great Britain and Ireland, not from any local cause, not because by the Union two legislatures have merged into one, and instead of a separate parliament, respecting which, while it had an existence, little good, judging from their deeds, could be said, we now form a portion of the imperial parliament, of which we feel no inclination to speak in terms of praise; but these overturnings in trade have arisen from a cause common to every part of the empire, and which will not cease to operate, so long as the present unwise policy is persisted in.—All these evils result from the WAR. But as this part of the subject will be treated more fully in the Commercial Report, it is unnecessary to enter more largely on it in this place. If war occasion all the inconveniences, the remedy must be sought in PEACE. It is a fashionable cant to say peace is unattainable, and the expression passes from one to another without examination. A war of fifteen years has not given us security, but every successive year has increased our danger. Let us try an opposite system. The gigantic power of France is as greatly to be dreaded in war, as in peace, and there is no tendency in warfare to recruit our most vulnerable part, the state of our finances, or to restore the lost energies of trade, which can alone enable these countries to bear the present load of taxation. Let Great Britain abate of her naughty pretensions to the dominion of the

seas, and resolve to be just and moderate, and a peace might speedily be made. Even admitting doubts of its long duration, our situation could not be made worse by the experiment. At least, suffering humanity would have a little respite, and the blood and treasure of our country would not for a time be unavailingly lost in a contest in which nothing is gained, and much is suffered. Peace could probably be made on terms by no means unreasonable: it would be useful to Bonaparte to consolidate his power; we equally require its aid to restore our energies. In a season of peace, our commerce would revive, and from this source we should possess an ample equivalent for the increased military power of France. In trade she cannot rival us for many years.

In Ireland additional taxes have been laid on, and much murmur occasioned. How the advocates for war can reasonably complain, is not quite evident. So long as war is carried on, expenses will increase, and there must be additional taxation. The clamorous supporters of war should bear these facts in remembrance, and cease to object to taxation, while their own system renders it absolutely necessary. If these considerations had due weight, perhaps many who sit quietly at home, and loudly raise the war-whoop, would abate of their brainless ardour. But perhaps no persons are more dissatisfied with the weight of taxes, than they who are so anxious to assume an exclusive claim to the abused and misapplied term of loyalty. These seeming contradictions arise from the same motive, an inordinate selfishness. They seek to draw a gain from a monopoly of specious pretences, but they like to save their pockets. They are willing

to give their support in words, but chuse rather that others should give money, and scruple not by every artifice to evade their proportion of contribution to what they themselves affect to call a just and necessary war.

Some of the London clergy have been holding meetings in their parishes, and accusing reformers of promoting dissension; but are not they themselves liable to a just recrimination? Do they not promote dissension by their counter resolutions? An opposition to existing establishments must be either good, or bad, according to the motives of the opposers, and the good or bad qualities of the things opposed. No party whether in power, or out of power, has a right to assume without examination, that an opposition to them must necessarily be bad. The question must be determined by reason, and sound argument. An obstinate zeal for retention may be as unreasonable, and as liable to produce irritation and inflammation, as a zeal for innovation.

The necessity for taxes in Ireland was increased by the injudicious and immoral policy of abating the duty on whiskey. But may it not be considered in the nature of a bribe to secure the landed interest, that the cheapness of the poison of ardent spirits is permitted to increase our national vice, and that fondness for intoxication which is unhappily characteristic of our country?

The manufacturers of Dublin are in great distress. If their employers have felt the pressure of the times, the poor weaver and artisan accustomed to live from hand to mouth have felt the difficulties with accumulated weight. The one may have to part with some of their superfluities, and ascend to the third story, or even to the garret, but what must become of the wretched inhabitants of the cellar, when their weekly or daily fund to feed themselves and their crying infants, is taken from them by the distresses of the times. They were already in a state in which they could sink no lower, without actually encountering starvation. But there is a radical defect in the state of Dublin. A large city is not a suitable seat of manufacture. In such

an unnatural situation, seasons of distress frequently occur, and periodically visit those victims of bad policy, and of their own imprudence, in whom thoughtless habits of improvidence are cherished, not only by their own fatal propensity to drinking whiskey, but by the blunders of statesmen, and especially by that system, to which they have been taught to look for relief. Instead of relying on their own powers, and being instructed in the necessity of providing for their wants by their own exertions, and by prudence and frugality, they are accustomed to look for assistance from the uncertain supplies of charity balls, and charity plays, mere palliatives, which increased the evils by teaching dependence on the supplies drawn from the luxuries of those above them. Government in the present instance have stepped forward, and procured the national bank to offer to lend £200,000, as a means of supporting public credit. The intention is good, but there is reason to fear the means are entirely inadequate to the end proposed of affording effectual relief. The present pressure arises from too large a stock of manufactures lying on hand. The plan of giving money to the manufacturers to enable them to go on increases the stock, and adds to the evil.

The common council of the city of Dublin have at a meeting on the 20th instant passed by a large majority, resolutions to the following import, but the court of Aldermen refused their concurrence.

“Resolved. That we now feel as we have always felt, an unshaken loyalty to our sovereign king George the third, and the succession of his royal house; and we have to lament that his majesty should have been so grossly imposed on by his ministers, as in terminating the last sessions of parliament to state the growing prosperity of Ireland, when his ministers, in making such representations to his majesty, must have known that the very reverse was and is the fact.

“Resolved. That the present distress and growing misfortunes of Ireland have arisen from not having a resident parliament, who alone would be capable of knowing the real wants of this country, and providing for them adequate remedies, and we are the more fortified in this our opinion by the manner in which the late

monstrous system of taxation was imposed on this country, and which is contrary to every sound principle of legislation; we therefore appeal to our countrymen and fellow citizens to come forward in corporate bodies, and in county and grand jury meetings, to demand a restoration of that constitution which is our birth-right, and of which we have been dispossessed by fraud and corruption."

They have likewise ordered the portrait of Mr. Foster to be removed from the mansion house, he having forfeited the confidence of the nation. If cool reflection had repressed the ebullitions of party, it is probable this portrait would never have been placed in the situation from which it is now displaced.

The first resolution conveys a merited censure on the conduct of ministers for grossly misrepresenting the state of Ireland, and assuming its growing prosperity in opposition to the facts demonstrated by woeful experience within the last few months, and shows a proper return of public spirit in the corporation of the city. All agree that something is wrong, but in the opinion of some the evil is still more deeply seated, than as arising from the union. Whether this measure was good or bad in itself, the means by which it was brought about, will stamp disgrace upon the actors in the page of history. Never was greater political profligacy, or a more total disregard to all principle manifested, than on that occasion. The bribers, and the bribed, and the *hollow* opposers of this measure are involved in one common infamy. But if the common council of Dublin are disposed to investigate fully the causes of our commercial distress, and the weight of taxation, they must look further than the union. The cause will be found in the war. But probably they are not prepared for so strong a censure on administration, as the true solution of such a question would produce.

It is a symptom of bad times, when scarcely a month passes in which we have not to allude to some fresh instance of suffering in the cause of the people, and of free inquiry. While speculators escape, and those who have been long living on the public spoils, are left at quiet, while the pensioners of the state, the holders of sinecure places, and they who receive

enormous salaries for doing little, enjoy their gains, which so heavily load the middle and lower classes, as to threaten that "the additional pound put on, may at last break the pack horse's back," while those public mendicants of the higher rank loll at ease, supported by a forced and extravagant maintenance, if an unlucky wight vents his feelings in terms too strong for the nerves of pampered and morbid delicacy, he is immediately caught in the legal trap, and the utmost stretch of power is exerted against him; while to the shame of the people be it told, they look coldly on, say in thoughtless apathy he has been too imprudent, and join with the satellites of power in all their aggravations against the object of ministerial vengeance. The herd ungenerously forsake the stricken deer. We have again and again to complain of the *ingratitude* of the country; it is extremely bad policy to leave unsupported those who step forward as the advocates of the rights of the people; it tends to discourage others from coming forward in the public service, when they see such indifference and apathy, and suggests the inquiry, where will be the virtuous recompense to serve an *ungrateful* people? The feeling of conscious rectitude may support a few generous spirits in sacrificing much to the public good, but there is in the human mind a tendency to grow cool and indifferent also, unless the approbation of numbers cherishes the patriotic flame. It is not to be expected, that individuals can neglect their own business to make a common cause with the sufferer; but he is fairly entitled to the expression of sympathy, so decidedly made known as to render such prosecutions unpopular. Liberty is in danger of being lost, if the press is shackled, and free discussion so narrowed, that a man must write, as if the attorney general "overlooked each line." The free expression of thought will be cramped if advantage is taken of an unguarded word: which in the hurry or ardour of composition may slip in, and he who writes with a sword suspended over his head, will seldom possess sufficient strength of mind to write usefully or energetically. The press

may issue forth tame mawkish lullabies, or venally sing the praises of those in power; but under such circumstances, the shadow only of a mighty name will remain.

These reflections are preparatory to the introduction of the case of William Cobbett, the well known writer of the Weekly Register; a man who at present, at least, deserves well of his country. He has been found guilty of a libel on the German legion, and sentenced to an imprisonment of two years in Newgate, to pay a fine of £1000, and afterwards to find securities for his good behaviour for seven years, himself in £3000, and two securities for £1000 each. We are to recollect that he himself was a soldier, who rose from the ranks, and has that warmth of feeling which may reasonably be expected, under such circumstances, when he described the German Legion called in to quell a meeting of the local militia at Ely. Indeed in a fair estimate of his political principles, a bias to his first profession, and a fondness for military glory appear to lead him at times, to countenance that system of military power, to which the present unhappy state of Europe appears in danger of rapidly propelling the present civilized portion of the globe, and of bringing it back again to the barbarism of those falsely called the heroic ages. These remarks on the tendency to military despotism incidentally occurred, and have no immediate bearing on the question of his punishment, for on this point he and the attorney general have probably a similar predilection. He is now deserving of public sympathy: and that support conferred by public feeling. He shows an undaunted mind, and that his spirit is unbroken, appears by the following extract from his Register of the 14th inst.

"I begin the eighteenth volume in a prison. In this respect, however, I only share the lot of many men, who have inhabited this very prison before me, nor have I the smallest doubt, that I shall hereafter be enabled to follow the example of those men. On the triumphing, the boundless joy, the feasting and shouting, of the speculators, or public robbers, and of all those, whether prodigate or hypocritical villains, of whom I have been the

scourge, I look with contempt; knowing very well, feeling in my heart, that my situation, even at this time, is infinitely preferable to theirs; and, as to the future, I can reasonably promise myself days of peace and happiness, while continual dread must haunt their guilty minds; while every stir, and every sound must make them quake for fear. Their day is yet to come.

He has been charged with base lucre. In the present state of things, the advocate of the people does not take the shortest road to make his fortune. The people have no places or pensions to bestow; they are even so careless as to be niggardly in dispensing the due meed of praise to their defenders. The managers of the press seek out other means; they too frequently frame their columns to suit the varying fashion of opinion, and by the help of deceptive glosses, and artful suppressions, seek to make "the worse appear the better reason," and thus recommend themselves to the notice of government; they are in no fear of prosecutions, or of "being caught tripping."

"They would not with a peremptory tone,

Assert the nose upon the face their own," if they thought it would displease their superiors, or lessen the number of their subscribers, when loyalty, or rather a pretence to it, is the reigning fashion. The proprietors and editors of our periodical publications have much in their power in giving a right or wrong direction to the public taste; they are caterers for the public, who are often too indolent to judge for themselves, but without discrimination take what is set before them:

"While sloth seduces most, too weak to bear,

The unsupportable fatigue of thought,
And swallowing, therefore, without pause
or choice,

The total grist unsifted, husks and all."

The managers of the press, including authors, proprietors, and all others in their respective stations should act on principle. He who says what he does not think, or suppresses from interested motives, lest the sale of a work may be injured, or the number of subscribers lessened, is actuated

by *base lucre*, while Cobbett, and they who unaccountably publish unwelcome, unpalatable, but useful truths, stand acquitted of the charge which recoils on the heads of those who make an unfounded accusation.

As a token of reviving spirit, and of the press recovering amid all the shackles attempted to be imposed on it, and that some are still willing to preserve the rights of free discussion, we give an extract from a prospectus of a new paper to be published in Cornwall, to be called the *Cornwall Advertiser*, or *West Briton*. The sentiments are deserving of approbation, as they show a right feeling, and revive the hope of just political opinions gradually making their way.

"Thus a light in feeble times,
Independence here shall reign,
Or soon, if circling distant climes,
Shall here reluctant rise again."

"A Newspaper, entitled,
THE CORNWALL ADVERTISER,
"*Prisca Fides.*"

"TO THE PUBLIC....The liberty of discussing public measures, and of pronouncing on the conduct of public men, is so essential to freedom itself, that, where this privilege does not exist, the government, whatever form it may assume, is substantially despotic; for, if the people are prevented from expressing their judgment respecting the wisdom and integrity of those who hold the helm of the state, the government is without controul, and the nation without redress. The press is justly considered the chief organ of this liberty; it is through this medium that information is circulated through the nation, and that public opinion, with gently swelling waves, rolls forward, until it reaches every corner of the land.

"To secure a medium for free and impartial discussion; to check whilst it is possible, the headlong torrent of public abuses; to recover, and transmit unimpaired to posterity that sacred constitution, so dearly purchased by our ancestors; to give to the inhabitants of this country an opportunity of expressing their unfettered opinion, and of judging fairly respecting the great question of parliamentary reform, without which every other species of civil reform is but a delusion, the friends of that great and necessary measure have determined to establish a News paper in Cornwall.

A meeting of the Catholics of Ireland was held on the 13th instant in

Dublin to consider of measures to take on the rejection of their petition. After warm debates on the eligibility of presenting another petition to parliament, a petition to the King, and an address to the British nation, a motion of adjournment to the first of November was carried.

The Orange processions on the 12th of this month have in some places been less numerous attended than in preceding years, and even some who were formerly foremost on those occasions have this year declined to form a part of so injudicious an exhibition. Such a return to sound policy is highly commendable, and it is hoped, that it may be considered as the forerunner of the general disuse of a practice, which tends to perpetuate dissension, and keep alive an injurious irritation of the public mind.

After so circumstantial a review of our domestic situation, an object to us of more immediate importance, a short account of the state of foreign powers may be sufficient.

Every motive of policy, and reciprocity of feeling should intimately connect us with the United States of North America. But this war which imbitters every thing, and that mean jealousy which lurks in the minds of some against the Americans for throwing off the yoke of Britain, has misled our statesmen, and endangered our amicable relations with that country. Our claim to undisputed dominion by sea, and the equally absurd aggressions of France by land have distressed the Americans, and left them at a loss to which side to turn themselves. Their government, has not been fully supported in their plans by the people, and the influence of the popular voice on a free government, which even if occasionally in error, we ought to respect, has decided against the precautionary measures of an embargo, and non-intercourse, which were adopted at first, and which perhaps were the wisest steps that could be taken to avoid open hostility, and keep out of the reach of the contending powers of Europe. For a view of the difficulties of the American government we refer to the addresses from New-York to the late

and present President, and their answers given among the documents at the conclusion of this article, and which our readers will find illustrative of the state of parties among them. We also insert in the same place, an answer from the house of representatives of Massachusetts to their governor, which forcibly shows the difficulties arising to the United States from the pressure of France on one hand, and of Great Britain on the other.

Commercial cupidity and a desire to sacrifice future safety and respectability to the prospect, probably delusive, of present gain, appear to have influenced the American people and caused them to lose the advantages they might have reaped from the enforcement of the embargo and non-intercourse; for had these measures been steadily and uniformly persevered in, the difficulties of these countries would probably have forced them to yield in just concession to the claims of Americans, for exactly at the critical period of the repeal of each of these measures, we were feeling the accumulated want of a supply of those articles which form the basis of our manufactures, and also of a market for our manufactured articles. The character of the American government has thus assumed the appearance of being vacillating and unsteady, and by such conduct the Americans have materially injured their cause and their reputation for political wisdom.

Bonaparte by one of those acts of power so common to conquerors, who are seldom restrained by justice, and who like Caesar blush for nothing "but an ill fought field," has annexed Holland to France. Probably the situation of Holland will not be made worse by this act of violence, nor are we likely to lose except so far as an increased energy of a new police under the more immediate direction of France, may render the introduction of our manufactures into the continent through Holland more difficult.

The continent of Europe lies prostrate at the feet of this mighty conqueror. Austria, dazzled by the alliance with him, and associating one

of the Princesses of the house of Hapsburg with the new dynasty of the Corsican soldier of fortune, who partakes of the common rise of all those called ancient families which by success have risen to eminence, and only appear great to us, as viewed through the vista of antiquity, waits with eager expectation to be allowed to share in the spoil of Turkey, now "nodding to its fall," and likely speedily to crumble by the weight of its cumbersome materials. Prussia in danger of being devoured by the lion when his appetite prompts him, remains in a nerveless and unprotected state, waiting the caprice of the conqueror. Sweden, internally convulsed, affords scenes of confusion and dark cabal, while Denmark irritated against England, from motives of resentment for the attack on her capital, and the capture of her fleet, lends unwitting assistance to further the views of France. The prudence of Denmark has appeared conspicuous through the dangers which have attended the warfare of twenty years, which has desolated Europe and so totally changed the state of the continent, or of what has been called the Western Family. Russia is at present drawn into the vortex of French politics, governed by the unsteady and imbecile Alexander, once gratuitously styled the magnanimous ally of Britain. While Russia continues to act in servile dependence on France she may be permitted to retain her present show of power but her weakly governed and widely extended provinces are ill calculated to cope with the legions of France, when the deep policy of French intrigue shall place them again in opposition.

It remains to notice the peninsula of Spain and Portugal. Perhaps at the present moment the contest is decided, but if the issue is protracted, the event may speedily be expected. Great loss of treasure and a prodigal waste of human life, and the extremes of human sufferings have characterized the unavailing aid given by Britain on this occasion. Ferdinand, and things as they were, could not stand in competition with the physical force of the French, aided by the moral energy acquired by dexterously seek-

ing to blend with it the cause of reform, and the abolition of the inquisition, and all the other abuses of the old government.

English aid may not probably much longer retard the re union of Sicily with Naples. To prevent the fall of this branch of the house of Bourbon, the philanthropist can feel little interest, when he recollects the horrid barbarities practised by them a few years ago, when they vainly hoped they had regained their former power. The acts of cruelty then practised, sanctioned by the presence of a British fleet, were seldom equalled in the annals of civilized war, and with some other events of a similar nature, which have marked the last twenty years, raise strong doubts, as to allowing to this age the claim for civilization and refinement of which it boasts. The excesses of the French revolution are deservedly stigmatized, and are entitled to merited execration; but the acts of regular governments, are in many instances not less the objects of honest indignation and virtuous reprobation. In the page of impartial history both will descend with marked disapprobation to posterity, and show that Voltaire's allegory of the monkey and the tyger is not alone descriptive of French manners. Other nations must come in for their share of the unhappy mixture of frivolity and cruelty so deservedly lashed under this simile. This age produces a strange anomaly of civilization and barbarism.

Revolutionary movements are again apparent in some parts of South America, and the Caraccas make an effort for emancipation. Miranda has been for a long time sowing the seeds of revolution in his native country. Whether the inhabitants possess the energy, the perseverance, the coolness, the self denial, the willingness to bear privations, the fortitude, the courage, in short the virtues necessary to insure success to revolutions, is still problematical. Doubts arise and tend to moderate the cherishing of any very sanguine hopes. If they really possess sufficient powers of endurance within themselves, there is a danger of their plans being thwarted, by one or both of the belligerents of Europe, affecting as in the case of Spain and

Portugal to afford relief, but in reality seeking only selfishly to draw profit to themselves, and practising on the credulity of those who trust them. If the flame of revolution spreads to La Plata and Peru, the events at Buenos Ayres, will not tend to inspire confidence in the British name.

The old court of Portugal in their residence in Brazil do not appear to have gained wisdom by their misfortunes or transportation across the ocean. The same cabals, the same petty squabbles of a court, that hatred to liberty, and a total ignorance of the true principles of trade, equally stamp their proceedings with folly, in their change of situation as characterized them in Portugal. The inhabitants of a court do not readily learn to profit by experience. They are too often only fit for the hospital of incurables, the mighty *Lazar house* which contains that great class of mankind who refuse all instruction.

India presents no subject of pleasing contemplation to the sagacious politician, who looks beyond the present moment. A discontented army, active and vigilant hordes waiting for an opportunity of annoyance fill up the back ground in India, while at home, a bankrupt company borrowing money to pay a high dividend, and by an appearance of fictitious wealth, adding to the general delusion as to the prosperity of the country at large, alarm and terrify the calm observers of passing events, who "from the loop holes of retreat," view the present shifting scenes, and give warning of approaching danger. But they like Cassandra have too generally the fate of being mocked for their pains, and giving their warnings in vain.

OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS.

As descriptive of the Policy of the American Government in the present crisis, when they are assailed by the hostilities of the rival Powers of France and England, and their Councils enfeebled by want of unanimity at home, and as illustrative of the State of Parties with them, which produces such a vacillation in their public acts, we present our Readers with the following

Addresses of the General Republican Committee of New York, in behalf, and by order of their constituents, to James Madison and Thomas Jefferson, the Pre-

silent and late Presidents of the United States, with their respective answers.

TO JAMES MADISON,
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.
Esteemed and respected Sir,

Your republican fellow citizens of the city and county of New-York, at a general meeting, directed us to address you, to express the high confidence which they repose in your talents and integrity, and their full determination to support the rights and government of our country.

Your election, sir, to the chief magistracy of the union, was an event which afforded us the greatest satisfaction. Your ancient and uninterrupted friendship with Mr. Jefferson, the experience which you have obtained in a long course of public life, together with the integrity, ability and usefulness, with which you have filled many of the most important stations in society, are valuable pledges to your country of the patriotism, discernment and firmness with which the government will be administered.

We rejoice the more in your well merited elevation, because in manifesting the attachment of the people to republican principles, and to those practical rules of election which are so essential to the preservation of order, we have acquired an additional valuable proof of the practicability of the representative system.

The dispensations of divine Providence, and the voice of your country, have chosen you to preside in a most interesting situation of affairs. To your wisdom, and to that of congress, we cheerfully submit the nature and character of the measures to be adopted. Conscious that these only properly belong to the regularly constituted authorities, we are happy to add, that, in the present instance, the dictates of duty are united with the voice of affection.

We cannot but entertain a proper sense of the aggravated and long continued injuries which our country has sustained from the principal belligerent nations of Europe. Attached to peace, while peace can be maintained with honour, but still more ardently devoted to the essential rights of the United States, while we should deplore the necessity of resorting to more vigorous measures, we should become consoled by the reflection that patriotism and justice produced them.

In stating the full confidence which our republican fellow citizens repose in you, and in the majority of our national representatives, we are also happy to express a full determination to support the freedom and interests of our country, and the measures of its government, in war, and peace, "with our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honour."

That your administration may be pleasing and satisfactory to yourself, as well as prosperous to the American people, and that your name may descend to posterity, united with those of Washington and Jefferson, are among the first and most fervent of our wishes.

We are, sir, with affection and esteem, your republican fellow citizens.

ABRAHAM BLOODGOOD, CHAIRMAN,
JUDAH HAMMOND SECRETARY,
of the general republican committee of New-York.

Montpelier, Sept. 24, 1809.

GENTLEMEN,

Your letter of the 16th inst. covering an address by the general republican committee of New-York, having been duly received, I now enclose an answer, with a tender to you of my respects and good wishes.

JAMES MADISON.
ABRAHAM BLOODGOOD, CHAIRMAN,
JUDAH HAMMOND, SECRETARY,
General republican committee of New-York.

TO THE GENERAL REPUBLICAN COMMITTEE OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF NEW-YORK.

I have received, fellow citizens, your address bearing date the fifteenth inst. with a due sense of the kind sentiments it expresses, and of the favourable light in which it views my advancement to the executive trust, and the several considerations which led to it.

In proportion as the present situation of our country is interesting, it is consoling to find the conviction becoming universal; that the difficulties rendering it so, have resulted from the accumulated wrongs committed by the principal Belligerent nations, in spite of the justice and forbearance of the United States, which ought to have averted them, and that the only remedy is to be found in a firm and patriotic support of the measures devised and pursued by the constituted authorities.

The pledge as an example of this duty, presented in your address, is entitled to the highest praise. Devoutly praying that a sympathy and emulation every where, may, under the divine blessing, have the happy effect of preserving to our country the advantages of peace, without relinquishing its rights or its honour, I tender to you and to those whose sentiments you have conveyed my cordial respects, and my best wishes.

Sept. 24, 1809.

JAMES MADISON.

TO THOMAS JEFFERSON,
Late President of the United States.
RESPECTED AND ESTEEMED SIR,

The Republican citizens of the city and county of New-York, by their resolution, unanimously passed at a general

meeting, determined to signify to you the high sense which they entertain of your virtues, talents, and valuable services to our beloved country, together with their full approbation of the measures pursued during your administration. By the same resolution they have rendered us the organ to communicate their sentiments to you.

In complying with this pleasing request we also think it our duty to state, that we speak our own opinions and feelings, as well as those of our fellow republicans at large. You, sir, live in our affections, and in retirement attract the same, and if possible even superior emotions of gratitude to those which were cherished while you presided over the affairs of the union.

Your early and eminent exertions in support of American independence, and your unvarying attachment to the civil liberties of your fellow citizens, entitle you to their affections and esteem. And though we cannot but deplore that the errors and the prejudices of party have too frequently excited unmerited attacks, we are sensible that a consciousness of rectitude, together with the approbation and support of republicans must have afforded an estimable consolation.

We reluctantly parted with you as president. In the difficult situation of our country it was honestly wished to continue the aid of your wisdom, experience, and tried integrity. We felt towards you the affection of a child to a parent, and the moment of political separation was painful in the extreme. Your reasons nevertheless convinced us of the propriety of your retirement, and the election of *your friend* as a successor produces at this moment our greatest consolation. In the infancy of our government, we perceive it to have been proper, that worthy and disinterested examples should be presented, and that to prevent hereditary establishments, *our best men should avoid a perpetuity of power.*

The more we reflect upon the measures of your administration, especially those, which have been adopted towards the principal belligerent powers, the more fully we discover and understand the purity of motive and sound policy which produced them, and we principally regret, that *any domestic opposition* should have been made to the just regulation of a lawful government, not only intended but judiciously adapted, to preserve a state of peace, and to maintain the most inestimable rights of our nation.

Divine Providence has destined our existence to an extraordinary and interesting state of human affairs. The most superficial observer must perceive himself surrounded by vast and astonishing

spectacles. Ambition is no longer sated with the conquest of a kingdom or a province, but regardless of the means it aspires to the dominion of universal empire—In such a situation it was not to be expected that we should entirely escape those agitations, which convulsed the nations with whom we had established continual habits of intercourse. Our relations towards the great Belligerents, were too important to each to be beheld by the others without an eye of jealousy. To this consideration we must in a great measure attribute those repeated acts of aggression, which have been perpetrated with different degrees of violence, but without intermission. To keep aloof from these prodigious contests, to cultivate our own resources, and to enable our country to profit by its favoured situation, until its neutral and progressive growth should render it invulnerable to foreign attack, appears to have been the great design of your wise and salutary administration. Many of our countrymen, who have opposed the measures of government, or withheld from them a firm support, may live to regret that intimation which prompted them to violate our laws, and by presenting an appearance of our domestic weakness, encourage a continuance of those injuries, which might otherwise have been restrained.

We believe, sir, that the embargo and non-intercourse acts were impartial in their character, devised from the purest of intentions, and wise in their operation. They furnished an opportunity to collect our floating property from abroad. They prevented inconsiderate men, from placing their merchandize within the reach of inevitable capture. They recalled our mariners, from scenes of insult and imprisonment to the bosom of their native country. They evinced to the warring world, that the United States, however pacific in disposition were incapable of submitting to every extremity of injustice. They afforded our own government time to consult the opinions and wishes of the nation, before it consented to engage in more rigorous and decisive measures. They were calculated to withhold, and had they not been evaded, would have effectually withheld from foreign aggressors, those supplies, which were necessary to the perpetuance of their own power, appealing to their own interests, to restore the free exercise of those rights which their pride and passions and injustice had violated.

With deference to the better judgment of those whose experience and superior means of information have enabled them to form a more correct opinion, we believe that the truly independent situation of the United States and the power

which we possess to withhold from hostile foreigners, supplies of many articles of the first necessity, is a valuable weapon in our hands. And although a suspension of intercourse must produce its inconveniences, they are incomparably less than those which result from incessant insult and capture. Patriotism should endure these temporary privations with fortitude, and we have abundant reason to be thankful to beneficent Providence, for having placed our lot in an extensive fertile territory, so abundant in the production of every essential comfort as to preclude the possibility of real distress. We exceedingly regret that untoward circumstances, and an imprudent opposition have prevented the effects of this rational and obvious system, from being fully ascertained.

The desolating calamities inseparable from war, its innumerable distresses, its pernicious effects upon the manners and morals of society and the dangers with which it assails the duration of free governments, are powerful dissuaves against the entering into such a state without the utmost provocation and most direful necessity. With regard to ourselves, a warlike disposition would entail upon us the most permanently injurious consequences; we should be entangled in all the intricacies of European connections and alliances; we should be alternately menaced and entreated, coerced and courted, driven or seduced, to destroy our general safety and forfeit our national character of justice, and become habitually enlisted as a standing party in the distant contests of the old world. And we farther sir, believe, that when the injurious system of warfare is once adopted, it is beyond the limits of human sagacity to foretell its ultimate consequences.

But attached as we are to the continuance of peace, and adverse to any European connection, a pacific disposition, or any apprehension of danger, would neither occasion timidity, nor produce the most distant consent to abandon the neutral and national rights of our beloved country. The spirit of the revolution is unextinguished; we shall emulate the virtue and vigour of our forefathers and maintain at every hazard, the liberties, union, and constitution of the United States, together with the government of their general choice.

That you, sir, in your chosen retirement, in the bosom of your family connections, and in the midst of affectionate friends, may enjoy many years of happiness, and that the sweets of domestic tranquillity may be united to the pleasure of beholding the prosperity of your country,

and the triumph of those principles of civil liberty, in the defence of which your active days have been so beneficially employed, are the sincere and fervent wishes of your friends and fellow citizens.

By the general republican committee of the city and county of New-York,

ABM. BLOODGOOD, CHAIRMAN,
JUDAH HAMMOND, SECRETARY.

Monticello, Sept. 30, 1809.

GENTLEMEN,

The very friendly sentiments which my republican fellow citizens of the city and county of New-York, have been pleased to express, through yourselves as their organ, are highly grateful to me, and command my sincere thanks: and their approbation of the measures pursued, while I was intrusted with the administration of their affairs, strengthens my hope that they were favourable to the public prosperity. For any errors which may have been committed, the indulgent will find some apology in the difficulties resulting from the extraordinary state of human affairs, and the astonishing spectacles these have presented. A world in arms, and trampling on all those moral principles which have heretofore been deemed sacred in the intercourse between nations, could not suffer us to remain insensible of all agitation. During such a course of lawless violence it was certainly wise to withdraw ourselves from all intercourse with the belligerent nations, to avoid the desolating calamities inseparable from war, its pernicious effects on manners, and morals, and the dangers it threatens to free governments; and to cultivate our own resources until our natural and progressive growth should leave us nothing to fear from foreign enterprise. That the benefits derived from these measures were lessened by an opposition of the most ominous character, and that the continuance of injury was encouraged by the appearance of domestic weakness which that presented, will doubtless be a subject of deep, and durable regret to such of our well intentioned citizens as participate in it, *under mistaken confidence in men who had other views than the good of their own country.* Should foreign nations, however, deceived by this appearance of division and weakness, render it necessary to vindicate by arms the injuries to our country, I believe with you that the *spirit of the revolution is unextinguished*, and that the cultivators of peace, will again, as on that occasion, be transformed at once into a nation of warriors, who will leave us nothing to fear for the natural and national rights of our country.

Your approbation of the reasons which

induced me to retire from the honorable station in which my fellow citizens had placed me, is a proof of your devotion to the true principles of our constitution. These are wisely opposed to all hereditary claims of power, and to every practice which may lead to hereditary establishments: and certain I am, that any services which I could have rendered, will be more than supplied by the wisdom and virtues of my successor.

I am very thankful for the kind wishes you express for my personal happiness. It will always be intimately connected with the prosperity of our country, of which I sincerely pray that my fellow citizens of the city and county of New-York, may have their full participation.

THOS. JEFFERSON.

Messrs. Woodcock & Hammond

MASSACHUSETTS LEGISLATURE MONDAY, JUNE 11.

Extract from the answer of the house of representatives to the governor's speech:

"In advertising with your excellency to the convulsed state of Europe, the mind involuntarily shudders at the afflicting spectacle. A war exterminating in its nature, extends its ravages, and what will be its final catastrophe is known only to that Being who maketh darkness his pavilion. In the wide range of its desolation, inauspicious events have resulted to the best interests of this country. England and France, without any pretext or complaint in relation to our conduct, on the professed

principle of annoying each other, have wasterfully introduced a system equally repugnant to the usages of nations, the immunities of neutrals, and the dictates of justice. In both nations we perceived the same spirit, modified to purposes that will comport with the actual situation of each. England, on the one hand, in the insatiable spirit of commercial monopoly, has interfered with some of the most beneficial branches of our commerce, in order to afford her own a more extensive expansion. On the other, the ruler of France, with an ambition as inordinate, as his mind is vigorous and capacious, in his favourite scheme of bearing upon the commerce of England, has violated the sanctity of neutral rights, and the obligations of positive compact. The one with the mastery of the ocean, and the other with the dominion of the Continent, have waged war upon our dearest interests, and produced incalculable private distress, and public embarrassment. For either of them there is no apology, no excuse, which, in the moment of returning reason and candour, justice would not blush to own. Instead of being benefactors to mankind, instead of promoting the prosperity of nations, and extending the circle of human happiness, the destructive consequences of their conduct are felt in every quarter of the globe. This home ardently desires, that this state of things may be changed. And although expectation is almost destroyed, yet we cannot forbear to hope that these nations will return to a sense of justice and of duty, that they will give to this country a true enjoyment of those blessings which are her rights, and of which in a moment of lawless oppression, she has been unjustly deprived. In any event, we feel confident that under the auspices of those whom the people have selected as the depositories of their power, cemented by union and harmony, and with the benignant interposition of that Providence which has heretofore been "the stability of our times, and the strength of our salvation," the destinies of this republic will rise superior to existing difficulties, and be more firmly fixed in the affections of our citizens, and the respect of mankind."

PUBLIC OCCURRENCES.

Wishing to make this Department of the Magazine more full, and more generally interesting than it has hitherto been, the Proprietors earnestly solicit communications properly authenticated. They will be more particularly acceptable which describe the progress of local improvements, the establishments of schools, or plans for bettering the condition and increasing the comforts of the poor.

School for the Children of the Poor.

It is pleasing to record acts of benevolence and institutions to promote the benefits of education. Two young men, John Crossley and Thomas Cupples have most benevolently devoted two hours in the morning, and as much of the evening in each day to the education of a number of poor boys in the town of Litchburn. They have adopted the plans of Bell and Lancaster, and instruct about seventy boys after the manner introduced by them. The boys are taught in classes from lessons posted upon the walls, and they write on sand laid smoothly on a board fitted for the purpose, previously to using slates in their future progress. Much of the expense of schools on the usual plan, in books, paper, quills, &c. is thus saved. The labour of teaching, which they undertake themselves, is facilitated by the assistance of

monitors chosen from the children, who while they instruct others are also benefited in their turn. A record of the merits and demerits is kept, and once a week the deserving are rewarded by some small premium, and those who are marked in the black book are tried by a jury of their peers, chosen from the other children, and receive punishment according to their misdeeds. It is observed that even during the short time which has elapsed since the opening of the school, the morals of the boys have been considerably improved by a steady execution of this system.

Account of a School of Industry for Girls.

The very great importance of education to the poor, induces a correspondent to give the following account of a school for the education of poor children, established by a lady in Baltimore. The school was establish-

ed a few months ago, and at present consists of about thirty girls. They are taught to plat straw for bonnets and mats, and to make gloves at their own houses. Twice a week they attend at the school-room to be instructed in reading, writing and arithmetic, according to J. Lancaster's plan; when also further instruction is given in sewing and platting, to those who stand in need of it. The gloves are very neatly made, and the girls are paid in proportion as the work is neat and clean. The straw, which is of English growth, and bought in the warehouses in Dublin, is given to the girls ready split, and they are paid for platting according to the good quality of the work. It is intended to add the spinning of linen yarn, an article of manufacture not much practised in that quarter, to fill up any unemployed time, which might arise from an occasional want of sale for the gloves or straw plat. The

union of industry with the usual instruction in learning to poor children is very judicious. It is delightful to see them so busily employed at the cottage doors; and although it is a short time since the straw platting has been introduced into that country, many children are enabled to keep themselves neat and clean with the profits of their work. This manufacture must also be contemplated as of national importance, as the straw platting is so little known in Ireland, where the poorer classes frequently suffer so much from want of employment. The plan of giving premiums for neat platting is adopted in this school in order to stimulate the children to greater exertion.

A school has been established at Nurney, in the county Kildare, where Irish straw is used. The poor are taught to prepare the straw, and it is then bought from them.

AGRICULTURAL REPORT.

From June 20, till July 20.

The rain which has fallen since last report, has greatly improved the crops.—The late sown flax in particular, which in many parts of the country looked extremely ill, has recovered in an extraordinary manner, and the general appearance of the crop promises a plentiful supply of that staple commodity. The seed which was sowed last year, has in general grown well, notwithstanding the unfavourableness of the season in which it was obtained, and affords ample encouragement to the growers, to persevere in their endeavours, to render themselves less dependent on foreign seed for the future.

The wheat crops although rather thin in many places, may upon the whole, be denominated good; some complaints of blast in various quarters have been circulated, but it is hoped, the malady is not extensive.

Oats in general are short, and cannot be called a luxuriant crop. Where they were late sown on poor clay soils, they are extremely bad.

The appearance of the potatoe crops is variable, where they were planted early on good soils, they are promising, but on the poor grounds, where planted during the dry weather, the plants have come up at different times, and seem weak and stunted in their growth.

Grazing grounds have been very defective this season, and the meadows are less productive, than has been experienced for many years.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

THE WOES OF WAR after having first reached the merchants and traders have now descended to the manufacturers, and the lower classes. Bankruptcies multiplying, and with no prospect of their termination, but increasing in arithmetical progression, as one brings down another; work-people thrown out of employment, so that the weaver takes the place of the harvest labourer, and all find a scarcity of work in order to procure a subsistence, mark the present times, and display a distressing aspect. To what are these accumulated difficulties and distresses, pervading almost all the classes of society owing? An answer may be returned in one short word, THE WAR.—It is the war, which put trade out of its accustomed channels, and forced capital, like the comet's blaze into the erratic and lawless track of speculation. War occasioned these speculations to be uncertain, at first generally attended with great gains, and latterly with great losses. The war encouraged the system of the extension of paper money, and the consequent facilities given to the spirit of speculation, and also by the introduction of a fictitious and restless capital, had a tendency to raise the prices of the necessaries of life, and enhance the expenses of living.—The war increased the taxes most enormously, and brought the weight of the public

burden home to every individual in proportion to his means, or rather unequally, in proportion to his expenditure, and made him feelingly understand the nature of the public debt, which, while he read of its increase by millions and hundreds of millions, scarcely gave any intelligible idea, and almost exceeded his notions of calculation, till it was brought home to him in a tangible shape in the way of taxation, and forced him to feel his share of the burden. The war also, by raising up a class of people who partook of its gains, and rose to sudden wealth, encouraged others by the spirit of emulation to follow the example of profuse expenditure, and the sober citizen and industrious plodder forsook their former habits, and were shamed out of their modest mediocrity to ape the manners and expenses of the commercial aristocracy who had successfully turned the times to their advantage, and profited by the gains made in the more early stages of hostility, and some of them by their participation in the public spoils as contractors and in other modes of gaining by the war. Thus the war occasioned increased expenses, and diminished means of meeting them; hence arises the present unexampled state of commercial distress, of which the approximate cause, and of the consequent misery, which is overspreading the land, is seeking to meet the increased expenses of the times, by engaging in more extensive and often hazardous schemes in trade. When difficulties arose, recourse was frequently had to supporting fictitious credit, by a system of drawing and redrawing bills, so that frequently two or more sets of bills were drawn to represent one transaction: the mass of paper afloat was thus enormously increased, and when greater difficulties arose an unlimited extension of bills was issued, to the almost certain ruin of those who thus suffer themselves to be involved. Once entangled, they found it impossible to extricate themselves, and the plunge of each successive month was deeper. They were thus reduced to all the shifts for raising money, which are stigmatized among mercantile men by the name of *kiting*, a metaphor borrowed from the more harmless amusement of children in flying their paper kites.

Unless the cause which led to this accumulation of evils is removed, and peace is speedily substituted for war, difficulties will be likely to increase, and recur at short intervals, until a general bankruptcy ensue, and the plans of Bonaparte, at first ridiculed, but now to be so seriously dreaded, for our destruction, by cutting up our trade and crippling our finances, will be in danger of being realized.

The cotton trade, which has been latterly so much better in Great Britain, than in this country, may now probably receive a severe check by the cords for the exclusion of British manufacture from the continent being drawn tighter by the annexation of Holland to France, and the other plans, which Bonaparte has in contemplation for our annoyance, in furtherance of his views of commercial warfare. In Ireland, the cotton trade has received no revival. The number of weavers thrown idle, and soliciting work as labourers, mark the extreme depression of this trade.

The linen trade is in a state of strange anomaly. Linens are selling at higher prices, in our brown markets, than can readily be procured for them white, at least in the London market. By this singular state, it would appear, that too much capital is still employed in this declining manufacture, notwithstanding large sums have latterly been abstracted from it. At the late market in Dublin large quantities of fine linens of the lighter fabric, were sold for exportation to America, but the coarser kind were scarcely at all in demand; much therefore of other descriptions remains on hand in Dublin, and in London not much is stirring, but it is said there is some demand at present for Martinique and Gaudaloupe. The flax crops are now looking pretty well, so that probably there may be a sufficient, if not an abundant supply for this season. We may thus be encouraged to look for a more regular trade for next year from an adequate supply of flax and a total discomfiture of the speculators, who intermeddled in this manufacture, and who have met with sufficient discouragement from speedily again embarking rashly in a similar adventure. But the prospect of a return to regular trade may be again delayed by some recent great failures of linen houses in London. As a proof of the decline of the linen trade, it may be mentioned that no less than six bleachgreens, the entire number between Lambeg and Belfast on the river Lagan, have been this year unoccupied; and that in most parts of the country, the value of bleachgreens has been most materially lowered.

The state of the working people in Dublin is deplorable in the extreme. Admit their faults have been great, and their management imprudent, they are now objects of compassion. They have not like the weavers in the country, an opportunity of seeking employment in the fields. Their habits led them to spend too much on whiskey while they had employment, and now when the pressure of the times arising from the general source of our calamities the war, have thrown them out of work, their misery is great. At all times, the inhabitants of a wretched lodging house in a large city are deficient in comfort, for in comparison, the meanest cabin or hovel in the country is superior, where at least fresh air is to be enjoyed, but now when hunger is

added to dirt, they claim the attention of the humane to alleviate their sufferings. Happily for them there is in Dublin an ample fund of benevolence to afford them relief; and there are also enlightened persons ready to step forward to hand it out in the most effectual manner. To the credit of Dublin it may be related, that some of their public permanent institutions, as the fever hospital, and their large school, in School-street, are conducted on a truly useful and practical plan, and temporary relief has on former occasions been administered in seasons of distress in a most judicious manner. But private exertions can do but little to avert the overwhelming torrent; the remedy lies beyond their reach. Peace alone can restore credit, and revive trade, so as to give effectual aid to our drooping manufactures. Can our statesmen now have the assurance to say that all things are going on well? Will they hazard the assertion amid all the bankruptcies, the stagnation of trade, and the distresses from these causes brought on the empire? We ask for bread and peace: and they give us war, and its consequences, bad trade, and increased taxation!

Although the Congress of the United States of North America previously to their prorogation, repealed the non-intercourse act, and left the trade with this country open for a time, yet there is no certainty of an adjustment of the differences between the two countries. But as the French are acting with still more hostility towards the Americans, it is probable the scale may be turned for accommodation with Britain, if our government would only profit by these events and make some reasonable and just concessions. But of this wise mode of acting there appears but a slender probability. The necessity of a free commercial intercourse with America, almost to our existence as a trading nation, is apparent from the benefit derived to our drooping manufactures and the general joy diffused in the trading world by the temporary revival of trade with that country. But it is very much to be apprehended that this temporary open will not be turned into permanent accommodation, and that a renewal of hostile orders, and acts may again take place still farther to embarrass trade, and manifest the absurdity and evils of hostility, whether the sword or restriction on commerce, is employed as the engine of annoyance.

Money is uncommonly scarce in London, and discounts difficult to be procured, as may be expected in the present crisis of bankruptcies in that city. Many country banks have failed in England. It is said there are about 750 of these money shops in the several parts of that country. The failure of some will cause a run on most others, and in their endeavours to provide for their security, they must necessarily make money still more scarce. It is impossible to tell how or when the present crisis will end, or who may not be ultimately involved. The association of traders is necessarily so great, that it forms a chain, to which if an electric spark is communicated, it is felt through the entire extent. As an instance of the distress arising from a failure in country banks, the following account may be given from Salisbury, that on Saturday the 14th inst. in the market of that town, the distress was extreme, it being with the greatest difficulty provisions could be procured there, as they had nothing apparently in circulation but the paper of the place, which is no longer current. At night numbers of women and children were seen in a deplorable condition, from this unfortunate pressure under which they labour incapacitating them from purchasing their usual stock of provisions.

The following picture of distress in London, is borrowed from the Morning Chronicle.

"The persons who were so eager for commercial importance, as to consign merchandize to every quarter of the world, where our shipping could find a port, without orders, and in which only they were to look for a market, are the persons who now find themselves embarrassed by the want of returns. Their engagements to the manufacturers must be completed, and they have not even deposits to give to government as a security for debentures, even if relief should be thought advisable to be offered to them in that way. This is the case of those who went beyond their means in the way of exports.

"Those persons on the contrary, who are in distress by the depreciation of articles brought into the country, have incurred so severe loss by the fall of prices, that the original goods are not a sufficient security for the sum they are in want of, to answer the demands on them."

Such is the termination of those hazardous speculations, with which our merchants were delighted, in their golden but fallacious dreams of profit; and of which our statesmen boasted, as proofs of the commercial prosperity of the country.

In this report a view has been taken of the present state of trade and credit in various places. By such a comprehensive examination, it will appear that our present widely spread difficulties do not arise from local causes, affecting particular places, but result from deep seated and inveterate causes, which threaten accumulated distress, not to a portion, but to the empire at large, unless the danger is averted, not

by temporary expedients, but by a radical change of system, in our politics, our paper credit, and our commerce.

The butter buyers in Belfast again commenced their operations with the use of guineas, but have since discontinued their use. The premium on them has not advanced, owing to there being no demand for them in other trades, and as this is not the season for paying rents. Discount on bank notes is now about $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. And exchange on London about $8\frac{1}{4}$ to $8\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. for bank notes. In Newry it is about 8 per cent. and in Dublin $7\frac{1}{4}$ to 8 per cent.

NATURALIST'S REPORT.

From June 20, till July 20.

" Sweet Cista, rival of the rosy dawn,
Put forth her buds and grac'd the dewy lawn,
Expanded all her infant charms to light,
And flutter'd in the breeze, and blest the sight," DARWIN.
But oh ! too blooming was her transient grace,
The blush was hectic that o'erspread her face,
One fatal morn beholds her beauties blow,
No noon of health succeeds, no evening glow.
Gay for that morn, a sad reverse she feels ;
The mid-day sun her fragrant essence steals,
A weak Ephemeron, she yields her breath,
Gives to the winds her sweets, and sinks in death. W.

When the great Linnæus endeavoured to characterize the productions of Nature, to animals he assigned the power of spontaneous locomotion as distinguishing them from vegetables ; yet these seem to possess even this power in a degree almost equal to some animals ; the moving saintfoin (*Hedysarum gyrans*) whose leaves during the day exhibit a constant motion, appears to approach as near to animation as the Scabubber (*Medusa*) or even the Sea Anemone (*Actinia*) which inhabits all our rocky shores, and many vegetables are more affected by light and heat, than Animals ; no power with which we are yet acquainted, can prevent pinnated leaved plants from altering the position of their leaves, and apparently going to sleep, when they are deprived of light. A plant of *Mimosa decurrens* put into the dark, remained with its leaves fully expanded fifteen minutes, in one hour they became collapsed, but it required three hours exposure to the light, before the leaves had recovered their mid-day position. This phenomenon of going to sleep, is exhibited every evening by the sweet Pea, Bladder Sena, French Honeysuckle, and common Bean. Another no less curious property, and equally unaccountable, is presented every day in the expanding and shutting up of flowers, or their fading, even before they could be expected to have completed the intention of their formation ; the flowers which may now be seen every morning to expand on the common Rock Rose (*Cistus Ladaniferus*) fall sooner or later to decay, according to the brightness or darkness of the day ; others as the Salsafy (*Tragopogon Porrifolius*) are seen only to collapse at particular hours, but that with such regularity as to be truly astonishing ; another class seemingly overpowered with the excess of light, as the night blowing *Cereus* (*Cactus grandiflorus*) Tree Prim-rose (*Oenothera biennis*) and white *Lychnis* (*Lychnis Vespertina*) only present their beauties, and give out their perfumes, when the sun has sunk below the horizon. Such and so various are the phenomena of the Creation, that we are led to exclaim—

Great is our God, and great is his power,
And his wisdom is unsearchable !

June 22, Sweet White Azalea (*Azalea Viscosa glauca*) flowering.

23, Pompone Lily (*Lilium Pomponium*) three leaved *Spiræa* (*Spiræa trifoliata*) and Willow leaved *Spiræa* (*Spiræa salicifolia*) flowering. Grey Horse Fly or Cleg (*Tubanus pluvialis*) appearing.

25, Narrow leaved Willow Herb (*Epilobium angustifolium*) Downey Rose (*Rosa tomentosa*) Dog Rose (*Rosa Canina*) Rough Rose (*Rosa rugosa*) Tufted Vetch (*Vicia cracca*) flowering.

26, Elder Tree (*Sambucus nigra*) and Constantinople Common Flag (*Gladiolus Byzantinus*) flowering.

27, Red flowered *Fraxinella* (*Dictamnus Fraxinella*) flowering. Black-bird singing.

28, Bulbous Iris (*Iris Xiphium*) Goats beard *Spiræa* (*Spiræa Arimeus*) White *Lychnidea* (*Phlox suavelens*) and small flowered Willow Herb (*Epilobium parviflorum*) flowering.

30, Blue Argus Butterfly (*Papilio Argus*) appearing.

July 1, Umbelled Rose Campion (*Agrostema Flos Jovis*) flowering.

3. Wheat shooting.

- 4, Oats shooting. Common Orange Lily (*Lilium bulbiferum*) Water Aloe (*Stratiotes Aloides*) and Flowering Rush (*Butomus umbellatus*) flowering.
- 6, Yarrow (*Achillea Millefolium*) flowering.
- 7, Grass leaved star wort (*Stellaria graminea*) flowering.
- 10, Broad leaved Campanula (*Campanula latifolia*) flowering: Cow Parsnip (*Heracleum Sphondylium*) in full flower.
- 12, Thistle Butterfly (*Papilio cardui*) appearing.
- 13, Upright St. Johnswort (*Hypericum pulchrum*) flowering.
- 15, Musk Mallows (*Malva Moschata*) Scarlet Lychnis (*Lychnis Chalcedonica*) flowering.
- 16, Spanish Broom (*Spartium Junceum*) flowering.
- 18, Rails calling.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

From June 20, till July 20.

This period of thirty days, has been very remarkable for the great quantity of rain, which has deluged the country with almost incessant floods: some people have remarked that during the last 30 years, they had not seen such great floods in some of the mountain torrents.

The number of days during which thunder was heard, has been more than usual for several years past. The cessation of the thunder was generally observed to be to the south east; if this has any influence on the ensuing weather, it is worthy of remark.

| | |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------|
| June 21, | Fine. |
| 22, | Light rain. |
| 23, 24, | Fine. |
| 25, | Fine, a few drops of rain. |
| 26, | Wet afternoon. |
| 27, | Showery. |
| 28, | Wet. |
| 29, | Showery. |
| 30, | Dark dry. |
| July 1, | Wet afternoon. |
| 2, | Heavy showers with thunder. |
| 3, | Very Wet. |
| 4, | Dry day, wet night. |
| 5, | Dry. |
| 6, 7, | Dry days, wet nights. |
| 8, | Heavy showers with thunder. |
| 9, | Very wet. |
| 10, | Wet. |
| 11, 12, | Showers; on the 12th, loud thunder. |
| 13, | Wet. |
| 14, 15, | Showery. |
| 16, | Light Showers. |
| 17, | Wet afternoon. |
| 18, 20, | Dry. |

The Barometer, notwithstanding the variations of the weather, experienced very trifling changes, being nearly stationary about 30. It was however, on the 22d and 23d of June, as high as 30—3, and on the 13th of July, it had descended to 29—3.

The Range of the Thermometer has been in general high; on the 25th and 26th of June, in the morning at 8, it was as high as 69, but on the 28th it was so low as 52, at 9 A. M.

The wind has been observed, S. 2; S.W. 9; W. 3; S.E. 6; N.E. 6; E. 4 times; so that the prevalence has been Easterly.

CELESTIAL PHENOMENA,

FOR AUGUST, 1810.

On the first, the moon rises at 3 mins. past 6 in the morning, and sets at 11 min. past 8, evening, and consequently will be invisible.

5th, She passes the ecliptic in the morning, but without producing an eclipse. She is seen between the 5 stars in the triangle of the Virgin, and the first of this constellation, and at 9, is 53 deg. 46 mins. from Antares.

10th, She is on the meridian at 8 P.M. the two first stars of the Scorpion and Saturn, being at a considerable distance below and to the west of her. At their appearance, we shall distinguish Saturn the nearest to her, both by his magnitude and closeness; at 9 she is 88 deg. 22 mins. from the first of Pegasus,

15th, She rises under the first of the Water-bearer, and the 4 small stars in the Water-pot, and at 9, she is 88 deg. 59 mins. from Antares.

20th, She may be seen in the triangle at the angle of which are, the three first stars of the Ram, the Pleiades, and Menkar, which with Jupiter and Aldebaran, form a beautiful groupe.

25th, She rises in the morning, being very soon followed by the third of the Twins from which she recedes, directing her course to a point under Mars.

30th, She rises in the morning, at about 7 min. past 6 o'clock, and sets in the evening, at 9 min. past 7.

Mercury is in his superior conjunction, on the 9th in the morning, and of course we can look for him only towards the end of the month in the evening; he will be seen but by few since his greatest duration above the horizon after sun-set, is not above 40 minutes and during that time, he is very near the horizon in the west. The Moon passes him on the 31st.

Venus is an evening star, her motion is direct through about $36\frac{1}{2}$ degrees. On the first we shall distinguish above her the second of the Lion, and to the east of her the five stars in the triangle of the Virgin, to the extreme western of which she is directing her course; towards the end of the month, we may observe her rapid approach to the first of the Virgin. The Moon passes her on the 3d.

Mars is a morning star, and his motion is direct through 20 deg. He rises in the early part of the month, nearly in a line with the two first stars of the Twins, but is then so near the sun, that he will be seen by few. The Moon passes him on the 27th.

Jupiter is on the meridian at 7 in the morning on the first, and at 5 in the morning on the 19th, his motion is direct through $3\frac{1}{2}$ degs. in the space between the Pleiades, the Hyades and Aldebaran. The eastern hemisphere will have a splendid appearance before sunrise, with his appearance and that of Orion. The Moon passes him on the 22d.

Saturn is on the meridian at three quarters of an hour after 7 in the evening, on the first, and at 36 min. past 6, on the 19th. The Moon passes him on the 10th.

Herschell is an evening star, considerably to the west of Saturn, and consequently affording inferior opportunities of observation. The Moon passes him on the 7th.

ECLIPSES OF JUPITER'S SATELLITES.

| 1st SATELLITE. | | | | 2d SATELLITE. | | | | 3d SATELLITE. | | | | | | | |
|----------------|----|----|----|---------------|----|----|----|---------------|----|----|--------|-------|----|----|----|
| Immersion. | | | | Immersion. | | | | | | | | | | | |
| DAYS. | H. | M. | S. | DAYS. | H. | M. | S. | DAYS. | H. | M. | S. | DAYS. | H. | M. | S. |
| 1 | 5 | 42 | 17 | 2 | 19 | 18 | 27 | 4 | 5 | 24 | 53 Im. | | | | |
| 3 | 0 | 10 | 40 | 4 | 8 | 36 | 21 | 4 | 7 | 25 | 51 E. | | | | |
| 4 | 18 | 39 | 7 | 9 | 21 | 55 | 19 | 11 | 9 | 24 | 58 Im. | | | | |
| 6 | 13 | 7 | 31 | 13 | 11 | 13 | 13 | 11 | 11 | 26 | 9 E. | | | | |
| 8 | 7 | 35 | 57 | 17 | 0 | 32 | 11 | 18 | 13 | 25 | 29 Im. | | | | |
| 10 | 2 | 4 | 20 | 20 | 13 | 50 | 8 | 18 | 15 | 26 | 53 E. | | | | |
| 11 | 20 | 32 | 46 | 24 | 3 | 9 | 9 | 25 | 17 | 25 | 7 Im. | | | | |
| 13 | 15 | 1 | 8 | 27 | 16 | 27 | 7 | 25 | 19 | 26 | 51 E. | | | | |
| 15 | 9 | 29 | 34 | 31 | 5 | 46 | 12 | | | | | | | | |
| 17 | 3 | 57 | 56 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 18 | 22 | 26 | 21 | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Look to the right hand.*

* First Satellite Continued.

| | | | |
|----|----|----|----|
| 20 | 16 | 54 | 44 |
| 22 | 11 | 23 | 8 |
| 24 | 5 | 51 | 31 |
| 26 | 0 | 19 | 55 |
| 27 | 18 | 48 | 17 |
| 29 | 13 | 16 | 42 |
| 31 | 7 | 45 | 4 |

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

If Mr. N— will please to send a Description of the Contrivances "for preserving the equilibrium of two wheel carriages, and for retarding their motion in descending hills, mentioned in his letter, it shall be inserted, but it is not consistent with the plan laid down for the department of our work relative to improvements and discoveries in Arts and Manufactures, &c. to publish advertisements of the existence of contrivances, or panegyrics on them, without any description to enable our Readers to judge of their merits or their novelty.

The paper signed E, and the letter from an old Valetudinarian shall be inserted if possible in our next number. A. on Spanish affairs is not thought fit for our work.

ERRATUM.

Vol. 4, page 151, column 2d, line 28 from the top, for £210, read £2 10 0.

THE
BELFAST MONTHLY MAGAZINE.

No. 25.]

AUGUST 31, 1810.

[Vol. 5.]

COMMUNICATIONS, ORIGINAL AND SELECTED.

For the *Belfast Monthly Magazine*.

TO THE MANAGING COMMITTEE OF THE
FEVER HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY
IN BELFAST.

*A Compendious View of the Doctrine
of Contagion which may prove useful
in the removal of popular prejudices
upon that subject.*

"Principiis obsta,"

"Morigerisque modis, et mundo corpori
cultu." LUCRETIVS.

ORIGIN.

PESTILENTIAL FEVER may take its rise in any country. The persons first attacked by it, will become the source of infection to others. It generally originates from putrid or putrescent vapours, or exhalations arising from large quantities of animal or vegetable matter, in a corrupted or rotting state, confined or heaped together under a certain degree of heat and moisture, and excluded from a free circulating air. It may also arise, from the exhalations, excretions, and long confined effluvia of a crowd of people kept, for a length of time, in places, without proper ventilation, as in the hold of a ship, ill-managed prisons, or hospitals, or close and dirty habitations of the poor. Persons thus confined may, themselves, become gradually habituated to this vitiated air, which will however communicate febrile infection to those unaccustomed to the poison. In this sense only, the air may be said to generate fever, that is, by bearing in it, diffused or dissolved, virulent human effluvia.

The matter of contagion becomes multiplied in quantity, and more virulent in quality. 1st. As it proceeds or emanates from human bodies affected with fever, and may be called personal contagion. Or 2dly, by such contagious matter adhering to other

substances capable of preserving its power for a length of time, and, in this way, of producing and propagating similar infection. These substances to which the infectious matter proceeding from human bodies adheres, are called *Fomites*. In all articles of cloathing, and bedding (particularly in those partaking of an animal nature, as woollen of all sorts) when kept close, and confined from the access of fresh air, this infecting quality may remain for a great length of time; and in such articles, it is found that contagious matter acquires greater activity, and becomes a more virulent poison, than when it proceeds immediately from persons affected with fever.

The air is merely instrumental as a vehicle, or carrier of contagious matter, nor is it capable of diffusing it to any considerable distance, unless it be borne by a draft or current. Like other poisonous matter, febrile contagion is rendered innocuous by dilution, and thus it becomes inert, when diffused through a large body of air, as in the atmosphere, which, in its extensive sense, is never so replete with infectious matter, as to communicate pestilential fever. There is, therefore, no pestilential constitution of the atmosphere, such as, in the prevalence of epidemical maladies (caught from individuals, and transmitted, generally, by fomites) ought to prevent us passing through the streets, or maintaining the common intercourse of society. The poison does not render the air of a whole house, or even of a whole chamber infectious, provided it be large, airy and clean. It is, therefore, unnecessary to take measures for purifying the air *abroad*, by kindling large fires, &c. but this is not the case with respect to the air of a chamber, a house, or an hospital,

M

where ventilation by fires, and currents of air, with fumigation of a proper kind, and other means, ought to be employed to purify apartments. Heat rarifies foul air, dissipates pestilential air, dries damp air, and obviates cold which disposes to infection.

It is very probable that heating wards in hospitals, to a certain high degree, by the means of stoves, would be an effectual means of decomposing and rendering innocuous the contagious matter adhering for a length of time in such receptacles of the sick, to the bedding, furniture, and walls; and after such a stoving to a high degree of heat, but regulated by the thermometer, and the consequent complete dissolution, and decomposition of the adhesive poison, there might be a free and safe entrance for patients affected with fever. This fumigation by heat alone, might perhaps supersede the use of artificial fumigations to be mentioned afterwards, which, it is likely, owe their effects, in no inconsiderable degree, to the heat accompanying the process.

NATURE.

The matter of contagion appears to be a peculiar poisonous gas, or vapour, the intimate nature of which has not hitherto been well ascertained, but in its known effects, is very deleterious or destructive to the powers of life. It is probably in itself a compound substance, and its active powers, may, therefore be neutralized, decomposed, or destroyed by appropriate agents. It appears to be merely diffused, or mixed in the air, but not dissolved in it, settling, and becoming fixed upon various substances, particularly those of a porous, or animal nature, which keep it enveloped, until driven away, dissipated, or decomposed by a proper application of air, water, fire, or volatilized acids. This poisonous vapour is not visible, nor does it, at all times, affect the sense of smelling, although it often happens, that persons attacked with contagious fever, are sensible, at the instant of being first affected with it, of an odour uncommonly and peculiarly offensive, which is either the poison itself, or more probably the ve-

hicle of it. It is from thence received, or deposited on the moist, exposed, inner surfaces of the nose, the mouth, throat, and lungs, and there inoculates the disease. The period during which this inoculated infection (which does not require any rasure of the surface, but merely an application to it) may remain latent, before exciting fever, is different, and has not been hitherto exactly ascertained. The period is different in different constitutions. It seldom takes effect immediately after an exposure to its influence, and it may lie latent from a few days to three weeks, before it excites disease. Hence it is often brought from jails, hospitals, &c. by persons in apparent health, and thus transmitted to great distances before it appears on the patient.

The rules of *quarantain* are founded upon the ascertaining of the period in which infection may remain latent in the constitution. This period, it is likely, is seldom or ever extended so far as *forty* days, and by proper measures being taken, of ventilation, fumigation with acids (where the goods would allow it) application of a regulated degree of heat by stoving particular goods, articles of woollen, bales of cotton, &c. in apartments contrived for the purpose, in *Lazarettos* suitably constructed, and properly insulated—by such measures as these, it is likely, *quarantain*, at all times, so inconvenient, might be considerably shortened, thus benefiting the interests of commerce, and lessening the temptations to the infringement of the law. The inoculated small-pox excites the variolous fever from eight to fourteen days, and even to eighteen. It is not probable that febrile infection will remain more than twenty days latent, or at most thirty days. From ships suspected of carrying infection from places in the *Levant*, *persons* might be allowed to land certainly in a shorter time than forty days, and with respect to particular kinds of goods, it may be doubted, whether the full *quarantain* be sufficient, unless the measures of unpacking, free exposure to the air, stoving, fumigation, &c. be thoroughly performed. We can scarcely ascertain the length of time which the

poisonous *fomes* may retain its activity, although in the human body its effects are felt within a definite period.

PREVENTION.

Contagious matter has not always the power of affecting the human constitution. Its activity in this respect depends: 1st, on its strength, that is, its quantity or degree of concentration: 2d, on its distance from the source whence it originates: and 3dly, on the disposition or susceptibility of the person exposed to its influence.

1st. A very large proportion of mankind are susceptible of infectious fever, but it requires a certain and sufficient *dose* of the infection to produce it. The larger the dose of this, as of every other poison, the greater and speedier the effect. In small quantity it is innocent.

2d. A certain *time* is necessary to produce the infection, even under the concentrated impregnation of the air. Hence physicians remaining but a short time in the sick room, do not receive the infecting dose of the poison. An infectious air may be breathed, for a short time, without injury, and this ought to produce a proper degree of confidence without rashness, such as sitting down on the beds, and making any unnecessary delay, after the state of the patient is known, and the prescriptions made. Medical attention should be concentrated, and not needlessly protracted, to the fatigue of the patient, and hazard of the physician.

3d. It is only at a certain *distance* the poison takes effect, and beyond that distance there is no danger. The sphere of infectious influence from persons affected with fever, extends but a short way, not more than a few feet from the body. Chisholm states this distance is about six or eight feet, and probably it is still less. Death is not, therefore, during a prevailing epidemic, to be apprehended in every place. The danger arises only from persons affected with disease, or goods retentive of the poisonous matter. In the Levant, the European factories shut themselves up, and are in security from the attack of the plague. This highly infectious fever will not spread over walls of eight feet

in height, which separate their flat roofs. There are many instances of persons dying of the plague on the one side of the wall, and the person on the other side remaining free from the infection.

4th. *Different constitutions* are differently disposed to the attack of infectious fever, and the same constitution, differently, at different times. High health, and what is called a plethoric disposition, are often favourable to the reception of infection; and infection *once received*, is generally most fatal, among those of the higher ranks, though their greater attention to cleanliness in their habitations and persons, and more airy apartments operate as preventatives against infection. But bad effects are frequently occasioned, by the filthy and confined state, in which a great majority of servants are usually lodged, as to bedding, apartments, which, in many instances, have excited and kept up contagious fever to the imminent danger of the whole family.

It is certain also, that many children belonging chiefly to charity schools, have been seized with contagious fever, from the shocking want of personal cleanliness amongst the children, together with a want of free ventilation, as well as of frequent cleansing and white-washing of the rooms used as schools and dormitories.

School rooms are in general kept in a too hot, or too cold temperature, and I should recommend, that wherever it can be enforced, there should be a regulated temperature of the apartment kept up, which might be easily known, by every master having a thermometer, and ascertaining the degree of warmth from 60° to 65°. Too great heat and confined air, are extremely noxious to children, even though not productive of feverish ailments. Their bodies are generally stored by heat, during the time that their minds are stupefied, beyond their capacity or power of digestion. The object ought to be,—Spartan bodies, and Athenian minds. But it is the *cucumber plan* of education which now prevails, and both bodies and minds suffer the premature ripening of the hot bed. Education includes the nurture of the

body as well as the culture of the mind, and aims, or ought to aim at the natural *time* as well as proper manner of unfolding and perfecting the faculties and dispositions *physical*, as well as moral.

But very low living, as well as high health and full habit, predisposes to the attack of infectious fever. Such epidemics first arise in the houses of the poor, from their being crowded together, from their want of change of raiment, and from their poor diet, approaching to famine, attended necessarily with great despondence of mind, which is, occasionally dispelled by spirituous liquors, producing in their consequences, still greater debility and depression. It ought to be attentively observed, that feverish diseases, though *not* in themselves contagious, are liable to assume that new form, and to become infectious, wherever ventilation is defective, the patients crowded, or when other local causes of impurity prevail. An intermittent may thus be changed into a typhus. An ill-kept, ill-managed ward in an hospital may thus be rendered a means of exasperating maladies at the public expense, and rendering them more malignant. In a surgical ward, and more remarkably, if crowded, common ulcers, almost constantly, become more ill-conditioned, and more tedious in their cure, though greater attention be paid to such cases, than to patients in their own habitations. An ill-constructed hospital, or an ill regulated one, is nothing better than a great machine for concentrating infection, and breeding up endemic, into epidemic maladies.

The same constitution is differently disposed to the reception of infection at different times. Every thing that debilitates the body, particularly that weakness which follows the excessive use of spirituous liquors, previous indisposition; strong apprehension of taking fever; great bodily fatigue, or night watching, with the concurrence of cold, and particularly currents of air from the places or persons affected, all predispose to the attack of infectious fever. Any sudden change of living is hazardous; and hence people that have been long confined in prison, are very apt

soon after liberation, to be attacked with a fatal fever, by undue exercise, or other changes in their mode of living. Persons in confinement of this kind, ought to live very temperately both in eating and drinking, which, those that can afford to live otherwise, very seldom do, and are apt to suffer accordingly. A moderate use of wine, and a moderate exercise and employment of body and mind, invigorate the system, and make it resist the influence of infection.

The prevention of infection depends upon natural or artificial methods. The natural means depend upon a proper use of those very elements, whose impurity and foulness had generated, or at least multiplied contagion. Air dissipates it by ventilation; water dilutes it; fire decomposes, and destroys it.

1. The great antipestilential is CLEANLINESS. In a large, airy, clean apartment, even putrid fevers are seldom or never infectious. The chamber door of a person ill of an infectious fever, especially in the houses of the poor, ought never to be shut. A window should be generally open in the day, and frequently at night. Bed curtains never to be drawn close round the patient. A moderate fire ought to be kept, constantly, to promote proper circulation of air. Dirty clothes and utensils to be often changed, frequently immersed in cold water, and washed clean when taken out. All discharges from the patient to be instantly removed, and the floor near the bed to be rubbed clean daily, with a wet mop, or cloth. Every fever hospital ought to be provided with a well-contrived and commodious shower bath, both as a preservative against personal uncleanness, and an excellent means of curing fever by the cold affusion, when applied at the proper times, with the proper precautions, and with the proper perseverance. There should also be a vapour or steam bath, easily constructed, by inserting a curved tin tube, by one end, into an aperture in front of a common tin slipper bath, and by the other end of the same tube, communicating with a kettle full of boiling water upon the fire, the steam being conveyed through the

tube into the slipper where the patient sits on a cushion, in flannel, with a blanket round the neck and shoulders, and over the edges of the slipper, to prevent the vapours from escaping. We ought never to approach so close as to inspire the patients breath, nor even the air ascending from the body, and the vapour rising from all evacuations is to be carefully avoided. The breath is to be suspended, as much as one easily can, nor should we expose ourselves to infection on an empty stomach; and as the poison may adhere to the passages of the nostrils, and of the throat, we ought to blow the nose, or spit, on coming out of the sick chamber. Sitting long, or sleeping in such apartments, particularly in currents of air, are to be avoided, in which last way, nurses generally get infection. Cleanliness is even conducive to prevent the generation of fever, and for this purpose, the streets, and particularly the lanes, and alleys of a town, ought to be frequently and thoroughly cleansed from all dirt, as it is always in a putrid or putrescent state. The Police Committee of a large town does not do more than half its duty, in paying attention to the cleansing and pavement of the principal streets. It is in the unpaved receptacles of all kinds of filth, which abound in the alleys, and entries of such towns, that fever is bred; and domestic nastiness is thus kept in countenance by the public neglect. Cleanliness is the virtue of the body, as virtue is the cleanliness of the mind. Animals of all kinds are by nature clean. They grow dirty and diseased by domestication. A pig itself will become more healthy and whole-some by being kept neat and clean. Cleanliness in our garments and dwellings prevents the pernicious effects of dampness, of bad smells, and of contagious vapours. It keeps up a free perspiration, renews the air, animates and enlivens the mind, and brings on habits of order and arrangement throughout the whole domestic economy. Uncleanliness is a national reproach, and a personal infamy. It is a real vice, often the parent and always the nurse of pestilential diseases.

It is recommended that the follow-

ing* code of advice should be left, in a printed paper, at every house from whence a patient is removed to the hospital, to be pasted on the walls.

ADVICE.

"Although you have sent your friend to the house of recovery, yet the infection may still remain in your rooms, and about your cloaths; to remove it, you are advised to use without delay, the following means.

"1st. Let all your doors and windows be immediately thrown open, and let them remain so for two hours.

"2d. Let the house or room whence the patient is removed, be immediately cleansed; all dirty clothes, utensils, &c. should be immersed in cold water: the bed clothes, after being first steeped in cold water, should be wrung out, and washed in warm water and soap.

"3d. Let the clothes you wear, be steeped in cold water, and afterwards washed; and let every box, chest, and drawer, &c. in the infectious house be emptied and cleaned.

"4th. If you lie on straw beds, let the straw be immediately burned, and fresh straw provided, and let the ticken be steeped in cold water.

"5th. White-wash all your rooms, and the entrance to them with lime slacked in the place where you intend to use it, and while it continues bubbling and hot.

"6th. Scrape your floor with a shovel, and wash it clean, also your furniture.

"7th. Keep in the open air, for the space of a week, as much as you can.

"Lastly, Wash your face, hands and feet, and comb your hair well every morning.

"N.B. The benefit of this advice, after infection has entered your dwelling, you will soon feel, and persevering in your attention to it, will, UNDER GOD, preserve you from all the variety of wretchedness occasioned by infectious fevers.

"Attend to it then with spirit and punctuality, for be assured that CLEANLINESS will check disease, improve your HEALTH and STRENGTH, and increase your COMFORTS."

* Cork-street Fever Hospital, Dublin.

Could a small portion of the funds belonging to a charitable institution, be better applied than in employing a person for the sole purpose of white-washing the habitations of the poor gratis, wherever it should be directed by the visiting physicians? It is in vain to say to poor people, "do this, and do that." They have neither time nor inclination, nor money to have it done. The first step to conquer the misery of bad habit, is, that they should suffer it to be done. It is a sort of medicine they must be, in some measure, compelled to take, and you might as well say to the sick, "take up your bed and walk," as to those in present health, make a timely use of the proper preventatives of infection.

The new method of cleansing, with greater celerity, and more effectually, large quantities of linen by an alkaline lye, converted into *steam*, which penetrates through all the fibres of the cloth, and destroys, by the greater heat, the particles of morbid matter which may be lodged in the linen, ought to be used in every fever hospital of any extent.

A Second means of prevention is TEMPERANCE. Excess in food, and particularly of animal food renders the system more susceptible of contagion, and, on this account, the English are much more liable than the French, or any other nation, to be attacked with fever, in the West Indies, or wherever stationed abroad. Being accustomed at home to full and frequent meals, chiefly of animal food, they bear less patiently the necessary privations of a campaign, and deprived of the habitual stimulus of animal food, and malt drink or spirituous liquors, they are apt to fall into a sudden feebleness of body, and despondence of mind, which has the effect of extreme abstinence, in predisposing to the influence of contagions of all kinds. The Scotch, and the Irish, bear hunger better, without suffering so much from its effects, and are therefore better soldiers for the service of a hard campaign, though they may all fight equally well in battle. It is always to be remembered that to support the vital powers by moderate stimulants is a good means of resisting contagion, but the

use of them in large repeated, habitual quantities, either in diet or drink, leaves the body more disposed to infection. Equable employment of body or mind, without fatigue, is the best protection—sober in all things, abstaining from nothing.

3d. Means of preventing contagion is SEPARATION. Immediate separation of the sick from the healthy, ought always to be practised, as this has a tendency in itself to dilute the poison, or to prevent it acquiring unusual strength and activity. Nothing is more insidious than the first entrance of a malignant epidemic. It, at first, seems to masquerade itself under other complaints, then, as it were, raises its crest, rages unrestrained, and absorbs, and destroys all other maladies. Hence every care is to be taken, to prevent it acquiring strength. "*Vires acquirit eundo.*" Did not proper ventilation, careful attendance, wholesome diet, and other means of *disinfecting* the air; and *most particularly*, did not the careful separation of the convalescents from the sick, compensate for the disadvantage and danger of bringing fever patients more closely together, a Fever Hospital would be a most dangerous institution, by concentrating the contagion, and thus becoming a large *focus* rather than an extinguisher of malignant disease. In nothing ought the regulations of such an hospital to be more strictly enforced, than in the careful separation of the convalescents from those labouring under fever, and in preventing the entrance of visitors to the sick, or of more than one friend occasionally, and only on the order of the attending physician. No fever hospital should be without a porter in constant attendance, and a complete separation, by wall, from its neighbourhood. But the proper construction of an hospital is not the subject of this letter. The inhabitants of Belfast will soon become sensible of the necessity of building such an hospital, as may be adequate to the wants of a large manufacturing town, and as may really answer the great purposes of such an institution, without risque to the public safety, by imperfect attempts at a great public good. The ARTIFICIAL means of preventing the effects of contagion, are by

stoving or simple heat, and by fumigation with the volatilized mineral acids (the only ones effectual for the purpose) which being equally volatile, and diffusible as the contagious gas, have the effect of neutralising, decomposing or destroying it. The two acids principally used, are that of the nitric acid, thus volatilized (carefully to be distinguished from the *nitrous gas*, which is noxious, and which is produced, when the acid itself is decomposed by the great heat) and, what is to be preferred, the *oxygenated muriatic gas*, being a permanently elastic fluid, and much more diffusible than the vapour of nitric acid.

Nitric acid volatilized is a simple and easy process. The utensils employed are a dozen of quart pipkins, as many small tea cups, a quantity of fine sand, with some long slips of glass to be used as spatulas. The sand heated in iron pots, to be put into the pipkin, a tea-cup to be immersed in the sand, containing half an ounce of concentrated sulphuric acid (oil of vitriol). When heated, an equal quantity of pure nitre (salt-petre) in powder, to be added gradually, and stirred with the glass spatula. The pipkins are then to be carried through the wards by nurses, and placed near the beds, but not too close to the sick. Bed-cloaths and body cloaths, to be fumigated with this vapour, which, in cases that require it, must be repeated for an hour, every morning and evening. No metals to be used in the vessels, which would produce instead of a thick *white haze*, those red vapours that are dangerous. The vessels should be perfectly clean; the quantity of the ingredients not too large; the acid and nitre very pure; the heat moderate; and the approach not too near to the sick. This gas however readily condenses, and does not diffuse itself so completely as the *oxygenated muriatic gas*, which is made by mixing two parts of common salt, and one of crystalized manganese reduced to powder. Put two ounces of this manganese into a small bason, diluted with an ounce of water, and then add an ounce and a half of concentrated sulphuric acid, at different times, so as to preserve a gradual discharge of

gas. One of these basons is enough for a ward of five beds, and may be increased according to the size of the apartment. Gallipots are to be placed outside doors, even when the people appear in tolerable health, to prevent the access of contagion, and such fumigation should be used, at regular intervals, in all hospitals, ships, hulks, tenders, barracks, large factories, and wherever crowds of people are frequently, and, for a long time, collected together.

An *extemporaneous* gas of this kind made, by simple mixture, may be kept for years in bottles, which emit the gas on being opened. The bottles are fitted in a case of box-wood, shutting by a screw, and fastened by a glass ground stopper. The manganese and equal parts of nitric and muriatic acid; to be put in, then the stopper. One third of the bottle is to be empty, to prevent accidents, and to contain the gas. The capacity of the vessel is to be proportioned to the extent of space to be purified.

But there are moral as well as medical means of preventing, and even exterminating contagious fever. One of the best is employment, which gives to the body an increased degree of vital force, through the efficacy of mental influence. It is the stagnation of indolence, and that torpor it brings over the frame, which favours the generation, progress, and permanence of contagious diseases. The manners of a people are the original source of dangerous and infectious maladies. The moral brings on the morbid contagion. The lowest rank of the people may be compared to that black and dirty manganese which stains the fingers, and offends the sight; yet it abounds in pure and vital air. Despotism that neglects and oppresses the people, is itself punished by the serpent, Pestilence, which is generated amidst the dirt, pollution, and mendicancy of the lowest order, then raises its reptile head, and spreads devastation and terror, through the fairest and most fertile portions of the globe.

It is the cleanliness of mind and body, which eminently characterizes the sect of Quakers, if that can be called a *sect*; who practise the *whole* of what Christianity preaches; it is the

purity of a mind always employed and never violently agitated, a purity that shines as it were through the elegant neatness of person and apparel, which is in fact, the best preservative against infection.

The *mephitism* of the lower ranks, is kept up, by an undervaluing and vilification from the upper, which tends gradually, to beggar the character, pollute the manners, and produce a corruption of morals, always closely connected with every species of bodily defilement. The family of the virtues is linked together by a strong attachment; and men, in the full and quiet possession of all their rights, will not fail to pay a just attention to the performance of their duties. One virtue will introduce another; and the virtues of the domestic kind, the love of household order, the habit of cleanliness, the decency of apparel, the purification of manners, in short, the virtues, or the vices of a people will be the necessary effect of a good or a bad legislation. The people are the mud of the Nile. It may be allowed to generate pestilence, or it may be made the source of fertility and general happiness. X.

Belfast, August 1810.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

ON THE PRESSURE OF THE TIMES, AND THE INCREASED DIFFICULTIES TO YOUNG PEOPLE SETTLING IN THE WORLD.

PERHAPS in no respect do the present times press more heavily, than on young men seeking to settle themselves in life, and perhaps in no instance do the persons aggrieved, more increase the difficulties by their own conduct than the young men themselves. It is a fact acknowledged by most, that the times from the badness of almost all kinds of trade, and the increasing weight of taxation, are becoming more difficult in allowing to make out the means of subsistence, and that hence there is an absolute necessity for retrenchment, if people are disposed to pay their debts, and preserve an honourable independence. No one can be truly independent who runs in debt. Now notwithstanding these increasing dif-

iculties of the times, and that every article of expense in a family has risen about fifty per cent within the last twenty years, we see no symptoms of our young men making any attempts to retrench their personal expenses. Look at the many articles of costly dress, and the many suits of new cloaths, which they so frequently purchase, as if the times were as formerly, and as if the profits in all branches of business were not materially abridged by causes not of a temporary nature, but of a sort, which are likely to be permanent, and to increase with the present deplorable state of distress, into which the long protracted warfare, of which no end can be seen, has precipitated us. To this charge of extravagance in expense, and thoughtlessness as to procuring the means to support it, our young females are with equal justice, liable to plead guilty. While they live under the parental roof, and leave the burden of providing for increased expense with diminished means on their fathers, they may think lightly of the difficulties, but in time it will press heavily on themselves, when habits once confirmed, are not easily laid aside, and when they may regret in vain that money once squandered cannot be recalled. For money is power, but if it is misapplied, the power to be derived from it, and which under prudent direction is capable of affecting much good is lost, and in many instances without a capability of being again recovered. I do not now make my appeal to the prudence of our young men, for I fear they have not accustomed themselves to form an established character of this kind, but I wish to alarm their fears, and seize on some of their selfish passions.

They naturally look forward to settle themselves in the world, but if they squander in needless expense now, they draw upon and anticipate their future means, whether the means are immediately in their own hands, or are still reserved by their parents. Every superfluous expense diminishes their future means. This truth they should steadily retain in their recollection, and duly remember that there is no prospect of the means of living

becoming more easy, but on the contrary the increasing difficulties of the times stare us in the face, and seem likely to sink the various classes of society, at least the middling ranks, to the class next below them, and in time, if the present system continues, to leave few but the great landholders, the rich overgrown capitalists and the very poor, or in other words, nearly to blot the middle classes out of the state of society. Against such a crisis it is time to prepare, and by rigid retrenchment to secure independence. Such conduct is essentially imperative on all ranks. The householders of the present day should with inflexible perseverance begin the work, and the young people, as they value their future independence, and look forward to comfort in their prospects in life, when they seek to settle themselves hereafter in their turn, should with full heart second those endeavours, and contribute their quota of sacrificing present gratification to future advantage.

Mathews in his Essay on Population, has clearly proved the immorality of marrying without a reasonable prospect of maintaining a family. Celibacy is a state attended by many dangers, and among the many evils of our present situation, I especially contemplate the necessity which appears increasingly to force itself by the pressure of the times for continuing in this state, as one of a most severe nature. Hence from all these considerations, there is an imperious and urgent demand on our youth to retrench. Much of their future happiness in life, will depend on their early avoiding habits of expense, or laying out more on their persons than rigid economy demands. In the present times of peculiar distress and difficulties, and in the approaching crisis of probably increasing hardships, retrenchment is become a most important virtue. Yet I wish not to be misunderstood, I do not want to convert our youth into misers, or to recommend sordid avarice. One simple maxim duly adhered to, will preserve the proper medium. Let every one proportion his expense to his income, and let no one live above his means. Under certain circum-

stances generosity ceases to be a virtue. K.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

ON THE TYRIAN, OR PURPLE DYE.

As the history of the famous Purple or Tyrian dye has hitherto been involved in some obscurity, and as the Animals from which it is supposed to be procured are common on our rocky shores, an account of some recent experiments, extracted from Montague's Testacea Britannica may be entertaining to many of your readers. T.

EXPERIMENTS MADE WITH THE ANIMAL OF THE SHELL CALLED BUCCINUM LAPILLUS.

SINCE the account given by Mr. Cole, in the Philosophical Transactions, no farther experiments seem to have been tried, except by a French naturalist (M. Duhamel) and these went only to prove the existence of a purple dye within the animal of *Buccinum lapillus*, which was considered as the famous Tyrian purpura of the ancients, and the method of marking with it detailed.

The animal is of a pale colour, with slender tentacula, upon which about half way up on the outside are placed the eyes: the ends of the tentacula as far as the eyes are retractile in the same manner as those of the common snail: there is also a small arm protruded at the canal of the shell.

The part containing the colouring matter is a slender longitudinal vein, just under the skin on the back, behind the head, appearing whiter than the rest of the animal. We broke several of these shells in a small vice (which is not so liable to crush the animal as a blow from a hammer) and with a needle laid open the vein, which was found to contain a tenacious yellowish matter, of the colour and consistence of thick cream; after which a fine pointed, stiff hair pencil was introduced, and several marks were made upon linen, silk, and paper. As soon as the fluid was exposed to the air, it became of a brighter yellow, and speedily turned to a pale green on the several materials, and continued to change imperceptibly darker until it had obtained a bluish cast, and from that to a purplish red, more

or less deep according to the quantity used; and these changes were more or less accelerated by the presence or absence of the solar rays; but even without the influence of the sun, it went through all the changes in the course of two or three hours.

A portion of the fluid mixed with diluted vitriolic acid, did not at first appear to have been sensibly affected, but by more intimately mixing it in the sun, it became of a pale purple, or purplish red, without any of the intermediate changes. Several marks were now made on fine calico, in order to try if possible to discharge the colour by such chemical means as were at hand; and it was found that after the colour was fixed at its last natural change, nitrous no more than vitriolic acid, had any other effect than that of rather brightening it; aqua regia without solution of tin, and marine acid, produced no change; nor had fixed, or volatile alkali any sensible effect. It does not in the least give out its colour to alcohol like cochineal, and the succus of the animal of *Turbo clathrus*, but it communicates its very disagreeable odour most copiously, so that opening the bottle has been more powerful in its effects on the olfactory nerves, than the effluvia of assafoetida to which it may be compared. All the marking which had been alkalized and acidulated, together with those to which nothing had been applied, became after washing in soap and water, of an uniform colour, rather brighter than before, and were fixed at a fine unchangeable crimson. As the stain given by this animal fluid is, as far as our experience has gone, indestructible, attempts were made to collect a quantity for the purpose of marking linen, when fresh shells could not be procured. Many shells were broken, all of which were more or less possessed of the colouring succus; this was, by means of a pair of fine pointed scissors, extracted with as little of the adjoining flesh as possible, and ground on a piece of plate glass, with a few drops of spring water. Thus prepared of a proper consistency, it was of a dull green colour, which it continued for a considerable time in bulk; but some which was spread thin changed

to its ultimate colour in the course of the day, without the assistance of the sun, though we have found it continue many days in its premature green, if light has been excluded. Some of this matter when thoroughly dry taken up by a hair pencil, dipped in water and applied to linen, was by the assistance of the solar rays speedily turned to dull purple, and afterwards, by washing with soap, to a crimson not much inferior in colour to the recent dye, but never so strong.

Whether the colour matter of this species was ever used by the antients, is to be doubted, since so small a quantity is produced by each animal. We strongly recommend the use of this secretion for the purpose of marking, where an indelible dye is desirable; letters marked on linen or other articles of wearing apparel from the recent animal, appear indistructible, bidding defiance to chemical process; as such it may be rendered extremely useful with very little trouble, almost every individual being provided with this fluid, without regard to sex or season.

Experiments with the Turbo Clathrus.

The animal is mottled black and white with a long tubular proboscis capable of receding within itself, like the tentacula of a common limax or snail: this is the mouth, from whence it must be inferred that all sustenance is taken in with the water through this trunk which probably consists chiefly of animalculi. The eyes are small and situated at the base of the tentacula, behind a little elevated: tentacula slender black: substantiaculum white.

As the animal becomes sickly by keeping for some days in sea water, it frequently discharges a most beautiful purple liquor. This circumstance was known to Plancus, who observes that it is one of those shells which yield the purple dye of the Mediterranean; and which is also recorded by Martini. It may indeed with much reason be conjectured that this is really one of the shells from the animal of which the antients procured their famous purple dye; though if Pliny is consulted, the shells that produced this precious colour were either *Murices* or *Buccines*, or both; "Glow,

ing with Tyrian Murex," is an expression of Virgil that indicates it to have been collected from shells of that genus only; but we must recollect that Conchology was at the time of those writers in its very infancy, scarcely systematized, or formed into any divisions, so that Turbo Clathrus may possibly have some claim to the credit of contributing to the celebrated Tyrian Murex. Indeed it appears much more probable that the colouring secretion of this animal should have attracted notice, and have been collected as a dye, than that of Buccinum lappilus, for the obvious reason that it not only produces the fluid spontaneously, and in much greater quantity, but that its primitive colour is of that richness so glowingly described.

The animal as before stated has the power of discharging it, but it may be collected either recent, or when the animal is dried, by opening the part behind the head. The colouring succus was extracted from five animals, and after grinding with a few drops of spring water, appeared sufficient to cover half a sheet of paper with a beautiful purple. Neither volatile nor fixed alkali materially affects it; mineral acids turn it to a bluish green, or sea green; sulphuric acid renders it a shade more inclining to blue; vegetable acids probably do not affect it, since cream of tartar did not in the least alter it. These colours laid on paper were very bright, and appeared for some months unchanged by the action of the air, or the sun; but being exposed for a whole summer to the solar rays in a south window, they almost vanished. The application of alkali to the acidulated colour always restored it to its primitive state, and was as readily changed again by mineral acid; in particular it differs materially from the succus of buccinum lappilus, which we have before remarked is unalterable. Its property is materially different from litmus, which is turned from blue to red, with the most trifling mixture of any acid. It differs also from vegetable colours in general by not being affected by alkali, which turns the infusion of blue or purple flowers to green. The colouring matter is readily taken

up by spirits, as well as water, and may be ground up and formed into a pigment with a small portion of white: and it is remarkable that the colour of this secretion is not affected by putridity, as we had occasion first to try it in a highly putrid state. Although this colour is not proof against mineral acids, nor fixable by any astringents hitherto tried, either in its primitive or acquired colour, yet it is probable some means might be found by chemical process to give it durability equal to cochineal; but that article has now entirely superseded these more costly dyes. It is remarkable that cochineal (which at first is similar in colour, though not so beautiful) is determined to a bright scarlet, by a solution of tin in aqua regia, whereas this is rendered of a bluish green by the same process.

For the Belfust Monthly Magazine.

ON THE COMPATIBILITY OF CULTIVATING A LITERARY TASTE WITH A DUE ATTENTION TO THE OTHER BUSINESS OF LIFE.

"**K**NOWLEDGE is power." Whatever enlarges the mind increases its active powers, and by strengthening it, fits it for applying to the various functions of life, with additional energy. They who have least to do, generally do that little more negligently and slothfully, than they, who braced by labour, and with their hours of leisure fully occupied, can direct their energies powerfully to one object at a time, whether of business, or literary amusement. Diversified employment relieves the mind from that feeling of ennui, which embitters the lives of so many, who by not cultivating a literary taste, have not provided an effectual remedy against time hanging heavy on their hands. Many fly from themselves for want of acquiring the habit of finding innocent amusement and instruction, and expose themselves to the dangers of associating with the idle, and those in whom the cultivation of mind, has been little or not at all attended to.

Young people of both sexes should especially cultivate a fondness for a suitable course of reading, and for

scientific and literary pursuits. By reading, I mean that kind directed to the attainment of some useful information, not that light sort, which is found in the general trash of novels, and by which the taste is vitiated, and not improved. Let us not deceive ourselves, by thinking, that information and knowledge can be obtained without an effort, for the very effort is necessary to fit us to read or learn with profit. The course which it is best for us to pursue, is frequently irksome at the beginning, and indolence often suggests difficulties in the way. Lavater in his aphorisms has justly observed, "that he who conquers indolence, will conquer all the other passions." The observation is true, because indolence, if indulged, prevents the exertions of our powers, but if overcome, the conquest over this enemy, facilitates the victory over others, by rousing the mind to continue the conflict, and in the end to complete the triumph. But if the entrance to the paths of virtue be sometimes rough and unpleasant, this irksomeness may be speedily overcome, by the very nature of virtue, which in its radical meaning, implies a strong effort. There is also a principle in human nature which may be enlisted on the side of virtue, that let us once choose a path, custom soon habituates us to it, and the force of habit reconciles us speedily to our choice. If we choose wisely, and persevere firmly till the habit is formed, we shall not readily part with dispositions thus maturely and firmly fixed.

Some parents might fear that by permitting their children to acquire a literary taste, their sons would be unfitted for the drudgery of business, and their daughters become less capable of moving industriously in the domestic circle, but the most sordid, and they who place most fully the happiness of life in accumulation, need not fear much on this account, for the cultivation of a literary taste is by no means incompatible with a sedulous attention to business, or a punctual discharge of the domestic duties. Firmly fix the scale of duties, and inviolably on all occasions, let those of most importance at the time

have the precedence, and then business will not be improperly neglected, the ledger will not be unposted, and the housewifery not suffered to run into arrears. We should in such a case, find that

"No sons, foredoom'd their fathers' souls
to cross,
Shall pen a stanza, when they should engross."

Let us consider how much time is wasted in frivolous employments, and in dangerous, enervating idleness, and how much more safely and profitably this leisure may be employed, and can there remain any grounds to complain of a waste of time in acquiring useful information? For so far from being destructive of habits of industry, a literary taste has a tendency to strengthen the mind, and when once strengthened, the mind can apply with renovated force and acquired energy to the diversified business of life. The mind requires rest and relaxation, but change of position or of exercise affords relief to the body, and so do the alternations of business and reading relieve the mind, and give a zest to the avocations of well filled up time.

But while literary taste refines the mind, and gives increased powers to perform the serious duties of life, and so far from unprofitably diverting the attention from the useful, communicates superior qualifications to act well our parts, it is not so with the votaries of fashion, folly, or dissipation. The hours devoted to those purposes are wasted indeed, and leave an unprofitable impression, which influences the character, and unfits for business. The active pursuits of life cannot fill up the entire time, there must be relaxation, and it becomes of infinite importance that leisure should be not only innocently employed, for innocence is only a negative mawkish quality, but also that intellectual improvement should fill up the pauses of business, and constitute the occupation of the hours of relaxation. Minds thus engaged will return to business with the springs wound up, while those who have given their leisure to frivolous pursuits, will feel the irksomeness of

business with aggravated dissatisfaction. Who most generally are the truants to business? Not the studious, who by the nature of their pursuits, are taught to form habits of regularity, but more generally the young man who has spent his mornings at a favourite lounge, talking among his companions as idle and thoughtless as himself, of dogs and horses, or the frivolous chit chat of the day; and his evenings at the still more immoral enjoyments of a tavern. The young girl also who has acquired a habit of instructing herself through the medium of a profitable course of reading, and who feels a *want*, and a void, if this laudable propensity to be improved, is not gratified, is more likely to discharge the duties of life with punctuality and fidelity, than the giddy thoughtless creature, who fills up the short space, that is spared from the toilette, and the insipid round of morning visits, and all those modes for killing time, with reading novels from the circulating library, which afford no correct views of life, but cherish a wild imagination, and an affectation of sentimentality at the expense of sound judgment, and just discrimination. Nay, the woman who has formed her mind by a well chosen course of study, who to reading has joined a taste for the sciences, who knows something of botany, and does not disdain natural philosophy, or even chemistry, as above the capacity of her sex, or inconsistent with a true sense of feminine delicacy, is more likely to form a just estimate of the duties of her station, and in consequence to discharge them regularly, and because she accurately defines them to herself, therefore conscientiously, than the mere plodding puddingmaking mortal, who dozes away her time, and considers all knowledge as unprofitable, and the acquirement of it a waste of time, who sneers at learning, and places perfection in approaching to an almost idealess insensibility. Such unimproved characters are very little companionable, and are intolerably lumpish. They remain in a stupid sullen languor, except when their minds are agitated by the light and irregular blasts of fashion, or frivolity, and then they float before the

breeze unconscious of the dangers to which their ignorance exposes them.

Literature has long laboured under the discredit of unfitting its followers for the business of life. I have endeavoured to prove a contrary position, and to plead in favour of its superiority to ignorance. I wish especially to make it amiable in the eyes of youth, as affording them safety from many dangers, a never failing resource against ennui, and above all the solid substantial gratifications of the highest order, in comparison of which, other amusements are insipid and evanescent. Letters instruct the youth, form the ornament and strength of mature years, and are the solace of old age. Man (I include both sexes) is never so happy, as when duly tasked with time and talents fully occupied, and even leisure turned to a good account. Let us contrast the listlessness of the idle man, often turning valetudinary for want of employment, and the full occupation of his powers, with the active man, giving to business its due, discharging duties to his family and his country, exerting himself in plans of benevolence and usefulness, and thus contributing to the general sum of good, while at the same time he derives comfort from his literary studies; but his studies would fail to afford complete relief from tedium, if a proper share of activity was not blended with contemplative habits. The union of activity and contemplation form a more perfect character, than if a proper proportion of either quality were wanting; the mere active man might be perpetually bustling to very little good purpose, while the mere contemplative man might sink into the torpor and lethargy of indolence, and become

“Useless, unseen as lamps in sepulchres.”

I have admired the activity of Atticus, a man of business, and yet of general knowledge. He rose early, employed his mornings in teaching his children the rudiments of learning; after breakfast he rode into the adjoining town six miles, where was the seat of his business, and discharging the various functions of his duty, as a banker, and conversing, as if unincumbered by business, with

such friends as he accidentally met, he returned home to dinner, and generally ſpent his evenings, while his ſons practiſed drawing under his ſuperintendance, at the ſame table, in writing literary works, which have deſervedly procured him celebrity, and placed him high in the ranks of polite literature.

In Ireland we require to be called off from the pleaſures of the table, to an abridgment of the hours ſpent over the bottle. The preſent fashionable hours of dining are calculated to promote too great indulgence in this point, and to induce an opinion that after the labours of the long day are over, a ſocial indulgence is allowable. How much better, and more in the ſpirit of philoſophy would it be to ſpend thoſe hours of relaxation in ſocial intercourſe among our friends, without the aid of the bottle, or in the domeſtic familiar intercourſe of the family circle, in that kind of ſtudy, to which occaſional converſation affords no material interruption. In every plan of enjoyment it is of advantage to include an idea of the domeſtic circle, rather than to ſeek for ſatisfaction in an inſulated ſtate. By ſuch a plan the members of a family are bound up together; the young are trained to look for enjoyment under the ſheltering and protecting wing of parental vigilance. In what better manner can the hours of relaxation from buſineſs be paſſed? In forming the minds of youth, the right employment of their leiſure hours, is of the higheſt importance, and parents ſhould eſpecially contribute their ſhare to aſſiſt in the formation of right habits, if the young people manifeſt a tractable diſpoſition, and a docility to be led into thoſe habits, which will ultimately contribute moſt eſſentially to their own happineſs.

K.

For the Belfaſt Monthly Magazine.

THE MARRIED DEMONESS,
Continued from Vol. IV. p. 425.

NATHAN at theſe words recovered himſelf, and drew from them great hopes of a laſting happineſs. He had ſcarcely departed from the

palace when he met Aſmodeus, with a drawn ſword in his hand, who cried out to him a diſtance as far off as he could ſee him. "Why have you done what I forbid you? You ſhall now by no means eſcape me, and the time is come when you ſhall pay for all your crimes."

Patience! ſays Nathan to him, I did not enter your palace but through the power of the love, which I have for your daughter; I beſeech you give her to me, you will thus make me the happieſt of men, as your refusal will render me the moſt miſerable. Aſmodeus was much rejoiced at this excuſe, and ſaid to Nathan, I conſent to your requeſt, and I give you my daughter very willingly; but defer the ceremonies of your marriage, until I have returned from the campaign to which the intereſt of my ſtate calls me. You may however in the mean time, enter the palace of my daughter with full liberty, converſe with her, and paſs your time very agreeably.

After granting this permiſſion, Aſmodeus returned to his army, attacked the hoſtile city, took it by aſſault, and razed it to the ground. He then ſpoke to his troops, and invited them to come and reſreſh themſelves in his capital, and participate in his joy; you will be all welcome, ſaid he, and you will ſee the nuptials of my daughter whom I gave to the man who is the moſt learned of the whole world in all the laws divine and human. They all accepted his invitation, and immediately ſet themſelves to collect all the game and veniſon which the foreſts contained to increaſe the magnificence of theſe nuptials. And they brought with them an infinity of wild fowl and animals of the foreſt.

The day of the marriage being come, Aſmodeus gave ſuch great riches to his ſon in law, that they ſurpaſſed imagination. He at the ſame time had the marriage contract drawn out and cauſed it to be ſigned by all the great lords of his empire after the married couple. He gave a public feſtival, the moſt ſplendid, that can be conceived; and in the evening he delivered his daughter into

the hands of Nathan, according to the custom of all nations.

They had no sooner entered into the nuptial chamber, than the bride Mitra said to her spouse Nathan, you have perhaps hitherto believed, that I was a sorceress, or a demoness, but know that I am of the human race, as you are; but beware of even touching me, if you have not a true love for me. He answered her, with the greatest respect and transport, that he loved her more than the sight of his eyes, and that he would prefer death rather than abandon her. I shall believe you said she if you will confirm your words by an oath. Nathan made no difficulty of this, and swore it solemnly to her, and besides did not content himself with words, but put it in writing, signed it, and gave it her to keep, as a proof of the eternity of his faith. They lived after this as husband and wife in all the delights of a happy wedlock, which at last gave birth to a son, who according to the law of Moses was circumcised on the eighth day, and was named Solomon in memory of the wise king the son of David.

After having lived some years in perfect unity, Mitra perceived that Nathan, playing one day with his little son Solomon, whom he held on his knees, sighed several times: she enquired of him the reason. Alas! said he, I will tell you the truth; I sighed in thinking on my sin and my wife, whom I have left in my native country. Well, said Mitra, what do you want? do you not find me sufficiently beautiful? Do you wish for more riches and honours than you have? Tell me freely and you shall see what care I will take to give you satisfaction. It is true said the husband, that I want for nothing and that your bounty has exceeded my hopes, but when I look on our son Solomon, I cannot prevent myself from sighing, in thinking of my other children. Did I not inform you said Mitra, that you should not marry me if you could not give me your whole heart and if you did not love me sincerely. You will soon complain of regret for your other wife, and her absence will make you sigh likewise. Take care this does not happen, for I should feel myself highly

offended. Poor Nathan immediately begged her pardon, and promised to avoid every thing that could displease her. He could not however re-train himself so much as to prevent himself from sighing sometimes, and Mitra having perceived him in this situation, said to him, Do not prevent yourself, my dear husband, from sighing for your first wife and for her children; if you cannot manage it, I am willing to take the trouble of conducting you to them, but I desire that you will determine a time for your departure, and another for your return. Alas! said he, I will do whatever you wish. He protested, he swore, he signed whatever she desired, and gave her a promise drawn up in proper form, which she might keep as an assurance of his word: After this, she invited her principal friends to a magnificent banquet; and towards the end of the feast she said to them, that her husband was to visit his former wife, and children, which were in the city of N. and she added which of you will have strength and courage sufficient to conduct him there? One of the company answered immediately that he would willingly undertake the commission, provided that he was allowed twenty years to execute it: another asked only ten years: a third rose up and promised to perform it in one year. But a little hunch back, blind of one eye, who sat at the bottom of the table, offered to carry him there in one day. The lady of the house immediately said to him, to you then I will give the commission, but take great care not to incommode him in any manner: you must even carry him with delicacy: for this man whom you are to carry is my husband, your lord, and it is proper that you should know he is so much exhausted by his studies of the holy scriptures that every pain should be spared him. Do not give yourself any trouble, answered the little demon, I will execute with pleasure all your commands.

At the moment of parting, Mitra whispered softly to Nathan, I beseech you, my dear husband, do not irritate this demon in any manner, for he is very passionate, which has been the cause that one of his eyes has been knocked out. Nathan said to her, do

not give yourself any uneasiness about any thing, I assure I will avoid every occasion of irritating him. She then wished him a good journey, and entertained him to remember the promise, which he had given her, and which he had confirmed by his oath. On this the little one-eyed hunch backed demon, placed Nathan on his shoulders with a leg on each side, and by unknown ways carried him to the city where he was to go, and laid him down gently at the end of a bridge over which there was an entrance into the city.

The dawn beginning to illuminate the earth, the demon assumed the figure of a gentleman, and entered the city along with Nathan; they had proceeded but a few steps, when they met a man, who had formerly been the friend of Nathan, who said, are you not that person who being the son of a very rich man exposed yourself to the dangers of the sea, and suffered ship-wreck: I am he, said Nathan: the man said immediately I will run and bring the news to your wife, who has lived as a widow for some years, and I will also tell it to your relations. He immediately went off, and he greatly rejoiced all those to whom he related the news. They ran out all together to meet him, to testify the joy they felt for his return, and to learn the particulars of all the adventures which had happened him; Nathan related to them the circumstances which had occurred from the first to the last, and gave them the particulars of all the dangerous events, which he had suffered; and of the manner in which God had always preserved him: he entered into his house along with the demon, who was concealed under a human form. The first thing he did was to embrace his wife and children in presence of all the world, and he caused a solemn feast to be prepared for his relations and friends. Scarcely was the banquet finished, when Nathan asked the demon, who had conducted him by the command of the daughter of Asmodeus, how he happened to be blind of an eye; he replied immediately, it is written exactly in the sacred book of Proverbs, xxi. 23. *He who*

places a guard on his mouth and his tongue, preserves his soul from many evils. But tell me Nathan why do you reproach me with my deformity in public; have not your sages said? *He who causes shame to his companion shall be excluded from eternal life.* Nathan did not pay any respect to these words, but continued still to irritate the demon, and asked him also why he was hunch backed. Truly said the demon, that which is written in Proverbs xxvi. 2. *applies well to you, As the dog returns to his vomit, so does the fool return to his folly:* I will however tell you the truth. You have asked me why I am blind of an eye, know that it is because I am too passionate! for in quarrelling with one of my companions he knocked out my eye, And as to what you ask me about my being hunch-backed, know that I cannot tell the reason: but let it pass, and do that which must be done. Nathan prayed him to forgive his impertinent curiosity: Never, said the demon, will I pardon you, it has given me too great an affront. Nathan then commanded his servants to give the demon his dinner, but he answered roughly, I will never eat or drink any thing belonging to you. Order only that some one may recite the prayers which are accustomed to be said at rising from table, and I will immediately depart and return into my own country.

The prayers being finished, the demon said to Nathan, what do you choose that I should say to my mistress, your wife? and what other commission do you give me? Go said he and tell her, that I will never return to her, that she is not my wife, and that I am not her husband. The demon represented to him that he ought not to speak in that manner, and that he should take care not to violate the promise that he had confirmed by his oath. I will pay no regard, said Nathan, either to that promise or to that oath; and, having sent for his first wife, he kissed and embraced her before him, saying, this is my true wife, and I am truly her husband: as for your mistress she is only a sorceress, begot

by demons, tell her I will never return to her.

The little demon seeing the obstinacy of the man, departed at once, full of wrath, and returned to his mistress. She no sooner saw him than she demanded how her lord and husband was, and what he had commissioned him to tell her. The demon answered her, you demand news from me respecting a man, who has not the smallest love for you, who on the contrary hates you, and who has declared haughtily, that he will never return to see you, that you are not his wife, and that he is not your husband. He then related to her all the details of what he had seen, and even the particulars respecting the first wife. The princess Mitra said then, I know not how to believe that what you have said is true; there seems much probability that all he has said was only to irritate you, and put you in a passion; but I, who know him, and who know how learned he is in the Divine Law, and the holy Scriptures, cannot be persuaded that he should break that faith, which he has sworn to me so solemnly; I will wait for the time, when he has promised to return, and then we will consider what is proper to be done.

At length the year which she had granted him, being terminated, she said to the demon her servant, go and bring back to me my lord and husband. Have I not told you, madam, said he, that he had charged me to tell you, that he would not return to you? but said she, at that time the term had not expired, at the end of which he had promised to return. The demon was thus obliged to obey, and departed immediately. He went then to find Seigneur Nathan, to whom, after making a profound bow, he presented the respects of his mistress; she has commanded me, said he, to salute you on her part, and has sent me here express to learn the state of your health, and to exhort you to return to her, the time being expired of the promise which you gave her. This put Nathan in a passion, and so he answered him roughly; wretch begone from this, go and tell her that I will never return to her, and that

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I wish she would not trouble herself about me. The little demon was then obliged to return, and to relate to his mistress the answer of Nathan. Mitra, out of all patience, ran like a madwoman to her father Asmodeus, and related to him the affair as it was: He answered her gravely, perhaps Nathan did not wish to come with a servant so deformed as him you sent, with whom also he had a quarrel; and in reality it is not very honourable for him to come in company with a one-eyed hunchback like this little demon: send to him respectable ambassadors, who may publicly exhort him to remember his oath, and to keep his word: she immediately obeyed him, and chose some of the most honourable among the demons, who having made the journey with incredible diligence, exhorted Nathan to make good his promise, and represented to him the solemnity of the oath with which he had bound himself. Having answered them that he would never return, they said to him, are you not the man, who hitherto has so much studied the holy Scriptures? Why do you violate the faith of your oath? for at length the time which you fixed for your return is expired: beware of what you do, you are sinning against the command of God (in Leviticus, xix. 12) *Thou shalt not take my name in vain, and shalt not swear falsely.* You moreover sin against the commandment (which is in Exodus, xxi. 10). *Thou shalt not diminish her food, nor her raiment, nor your conjugal duty.* Nathan was not in the least moved by this, and only repeated the old story, that he would never return. Wherefore the ambassadors returned to their country and reported exactly to their mistress Mitra, the answer which he had given.

To be Continued.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

FIFTH REPORT FROM THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION IN IRELAND.
To his Grace Charles Duke of Richmond and Lenox, &c. &c. &c. Lord Lieutenant, general, and general Governor of Ireland.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR GRACE.

WE the undersigned, Commissioners appointed for inquiring into

the several funds and revenues granted for the purposes of education, and into the state and condition of all schools in Ireland, upon public or charitable foundations, in pursuance of the powers vested in us, beg leave to submit to your grace our report upon the present state and condition of the endowment called Wilson's Hospital.

Wilson's hospital, situate in the county of Westmeath, Ireland, was founded under the will of *Andrew Wilson* of Piersfield, in said county. The will, in the following words, states the hospital to be intended "for the habitation of aged men, being Protestants, and decayed housekeepers of the county of Westmeath, and other adjacent counties, not exceeding forty; and also for the habitation of Protestant male children of the said counties, not exceeding one hundred and fifty; also to erect a school-house, to be adjoining to said hospital; the aged men and children to be supported with diet, cloathing, and firing, and all other necessaries for their subsistence."

This will, after some litigation, was confirmed by an act* passed the second year of the king, and the trustees and guardians appointed by the will were made a body corporate, with a common seal, and with powers to elect officers, to let lands, to appoint salaries, form rules, and make bye laws: and by one sweeping clause towards the end of the act, they are enabled to manage the establishment as they please, provided they do nothing contrary to law.

The trustees are the primate of all Ireland, the archbishops of Dublin and Tuam, and the bishops of Meath and Kilmore.

Buildings.

The hospital was finished in the year 1761. It is a square building enclosing a court, that is surrounded by a corridore that makes part of the lower story, and by means of which there is easy access to all the lower offices. Each side of this square building is one hundred and twelve feet long externally.

* The act may be seen No. 1, appendix.

The principal front is a handsome Doric building, surmounted by a cupola. Two wings are connected by corridores with the main building; one of these is a dining-room, about sixty feet long, and thirty feet wide; the other a school room, of the same dimensions. The height and proportions and size of these rooms, are uncommonly well adapted to the purposes for which they are intended; there are large windows on each side which open easily. There is a large fire-place in each of these rooms, and they are properly furnished. Over these are spacious dormitories, with windows on each side as in the halls below; they have no fire-places, but they have chimnies, by which a constant circulation of air is produced, even when the windows are shut. The principal building contains on the ground floor, a kitchen, and every necessary convenience for the establishment.

The first floor is allotted for the residence of the chaplain, who is superintendant; and for the lodging of the old men. The upper story is occupied by the family of the superintendant, by the school-master, and other officers. This building also contains a handsome and commodious chapel. Near the house there are very extensive offices almost surrounding a yard, which is two hundred and fifty seven feet in length, by seventy two in breadth.

These offices contain stabling for above twenty horses, large cow-houses, and slaughter-houses; a carpenter's shop, smith's forge, and other useful offices besides an infirmary. Over these offices are granaries and hay-lofts, which have been lately added to these buildings. And behind the house is an extensive garden of four Irish acres equal to more than six English acres. This garden is not as productive as it ought to be; nor are the boys made as useful as they might be in keeping it neat and clean.

The buildings belonging to the charity have been lately new sashed, and they are during this summer to be *pinned and dished*, and painted; the chimnies and cupola, which let in water, are to be slated, without de

pending on mortar or putty, in such a workman-like manner as will need but little repair for many years, except what regards painting, which should hereafter be considered as part of the ordinary expense of the establishment. The floor of the school-room is in a miserable state; it should be floored with oak, which from its hardness is not only much more durable than deal, but from its smoothness can be more easily kept clean. The stairs and some of the passages of the hospital are of hard smooth limestone, they consequently condense the moisture of the atmosphere both in winter and summer; while these stairs remain, it is impossible to keep the house tolerably clean, and consequently the children at the hospital cannot learn the habit or the love of cleanliness.

To remedy this inconvenience, stairs of Portland stone, or, if it can be had, of some coarser freestone, should be substituted for limestone. This improvement would be expensive at first, but it would be amply compensated by the effects.

The surplus now in the hands of the treasurer, with what must be accumulated before the proposed improvements can be finished, will be as great as to furnish money for them all, and to leave a balance of £2,000 at the disposal of the trustees.

If the farms belonging to the house should be let, there will be a very large range of buildings unoccupied, which may be converted most advantageously into workshops, where the boys may be taught various manufactures, particularly one of the offices, which is a turf-house eighty feet long; and if coals, which may now be had at a reasonable price, were used instead of turf, this large building might be converted into workshops.

Funds.

The funds of this hospital consist in tithes and farms, and tythes, and glebe, in the counties of Westmeath, Longford, and Dublin, of which a portion is annexed, and in a demesne of two hundred and fifty seven acres, managed by the superintendent of the hospital.

Amount of the Funds.

In 1744, £1,260 7 6.....In 1788, £2,092 14 8.....In 1809, £3,102 5 6.

From 1744 to 1761, the funds were permitted to increase till the hospital was completely built. They are now in a state of progressive increase.

A ninety-nine years lease of tythes and glebe in the county of Dublin expires in three years, which will probably increase the income of the charity to £3,500, besides the demesne, which may be estimated at £600, per annum; in all about £4,000 per annum.

A farther rise of five or £600 per annum will take place in eight years, and in thirteen years from the present time, a farther increase will raise the annual income beyond five thousand pounds per annum.

Officers.

The officers of this establishment are a Chaplain, whose salary is limited by the act to twenty pounds, he is also superintendant, with a salary of one hundred and fifty two pounds fifteen shillings, making together one hundred and seventy two pounds fifteen shillings

He has also in the house, diet, lodging, coals, candles, and the keeping of horses for himself and family.

| | £. | s. | d. |
|--------------------------------------|-----|----|----|
| Chaplain | 172 | 15 | 0 |
| An agent, whose emoluments amount to | 157 | 2 | 9 |
| Postage | 6 | 0 | 0 |
| Bailiff's salary | 11 | 7 | 6 |
| | 174 | 10 | 3 |

Two Schoolmasters.

| | | | |
|---|------|----|---|
| One at | 45 | 10 | 0 |
| The other at | 20 | 0 | 0 |
| | 65 | 10 | 0 |
| House steward | 13 | 13 | 0 |
| Bailiff | 10 | 4 | 9 |
| Gardener | 11 | 7 | 6 |
| Cook and dairy-maid | 13 | 13 | 0 |
| Four house and laundry-maids, and an infirm-ary nurse | 17 | 13 | 0 |
| | £479 | 6 | 6 |

Two men servants are paid by the superintendent. There is also a boy who is an apprentice. All these have their diet in the house.

A physician and apothecary are not in the list of officers, they are called in and paid when their services are required.

Old Men.

In the year 1808, eighteen aged men were upon the establishment in the house, and two were maintained out of the house.

Boys.

In the same year one hundred and seven boys were in the house.*

Candidates for admission are to be recommended by the minister and church wardens of the parishes in the counties of Westmeath and Longford, and the neighbouring counties. They cannot be admitted without an order from two of the trustees.

The boys remain from five to six years in the school; and twelve or fourteen boys every year are apprenticed to various trades. A suit of clothes is given to the boy who is put apprentice, with a fee of five pounds allowed to his master, which is not paid till the apprentice has been with the master two years.

The boys rise at six in the summer, and seven in the winter; they remain seven or eight hours in school, but have but little occupation out of doors.

Instruction.

They are taught reading, writing, and arithmetic. They write uncommonly well, and in general have made, according to their years, a considerable proficiency in arithmetic. Till lately they read very ill, but within a few months they have made an astonishing progress in reading and spelling, under a new master brought over by his grace the primate, from Dr. Bell's establishment in England. The pupils are very well instructed in the catechism and its explanation. A list of the books used in the school is subjoined.† Stationary costs yearly above twenty eight pounds.

Clothing.

The old men are well clad, by

contract, in blue coats turned up with orange; they have hats and great coats. Their coats cost two guineas, their great coats one guinea and a half, their shoes eight English shillings a pair.

The boys also are clad, by contract, in blue turned up with orange with two caps of the same colours. Their clothes cost one pound one shilling, their shoes at five English shillings a pair. The boys have now clean linen three times a week.

Dietary.

The old men are each allowed five times a week, one pound of meat weighed before it is dressed, equal to ten ounces dressed, and without bone, and excellent wheaten bread and one quart of beer; for breakfast six ounces of wheaten bread, with milk, or more commonly with butter and milk. On other days ten ounces of bread, beer, and three ounces of butter; for supper six ounces of bread and beer. An allowance of three pence per week is given to each of the old men for tobacco.

The boys have, according to their ages, five or six ounces of bread for breakfast, and milk; for dinner four days in the week, beer or milk, and from six to seven ounces of bread. Three days in the week, six ounces of dressed meat, and four ounces of bread with beer; suppers the same as breakfast.

This dietary is too profuse, as appears by the expenditure of the establishment, and from the frequent detection of embezzlement practised by the old men, who secrete and sell their provisions. But, upon the whole the diet and modes of living of the boys must be highly salutary, as two boys have died in Wilson's hospital during twenty years.

There are printed papers of the regulations of the hospital, a copy of which is annexed to this report.

Observations on Funds and Accounts.

The number of acres in the rectory is 3,058 3 10, the rent is three thousand, one hundred and two pounds five shillings, most of the leases made for twenty-one years, in 1808 and are at the rate of little more than one pound per acre, and some of the lands are now untenanted.

* In page 16, of the appendix, the number of men and boys upon the establishment is stated for the last seven years; there is also subjoined, an account of the number of boys disposed of from the hospital from 1789 to 1808, in the appendix, number 3.

† Appendix, number 7.

From the preceding statements, and others annexed to this report, it appears, that there will soon be a surplus of more than one thousand five hundred pounds, perhaps two thousand pounds a year.

The rents are received with punctuality by Charles Hamilton, esq. a gentleman of such property and character as prevent any risk or loss.

As a very large contingent advance of the funds is expected upon the expiration of divers leases, it is advisable to have the lands belonging to the hospital surveyed and valued by an eminent surveyor, upon whom the trustees can rely. Maps also should be made of every part of the estates, a precaution which has been hitherto neglected. In making such maps, wherever it can be effected, the proprietors and occupiers of adjacent lands should be served with notices of the intended survey; and where it can be done, the mutual signatures of the proprietors and occupiers of adjacent lands, and of the trustees, should be inserted in the maps, to prevent future litigation. Wherever any farm is nearly out of lease, it will of course be advertised; but care should be taken that the lands should be advertised in the most

extensive and effectual manner, so as to preclude the possibility of combination to defraud the charity.

There is a balance in the treasurer's hands of two thousand four hundred and fifty nine pound six shillings and threepence, after leaving a sufficient sum to answer current demands; the remainder of this balance should be vested in the public funds; by not attending to this circumstance, seven hundred pounds have been lost to the charity within the four last years.

The domestic accounts of the hospital were formerly kept by a steward, who, though he was an honest man, was not capable of managing such extensive business. Mr. Radcliffe, the present superintendent, has for some time kept these accounts in such a neat, clear, and satisfactory manner, as to afford a perfect insight into the receipts and disbursements of the hospital, and into the profit and loss of the farms; they are drawn up on engraved sheets, each containing a week's accounts, debtor and creditor. The amount of each folio is carried weekly to the end of the book, and arranged under various heads of expense incident to the establishment.

FROM THESE BOOKS THE FOLLOWING ABSTRACT WAS TAKEN.

Abstract.

| | | Expenditure. | | | Yearly Expense of each. |
|-------|-----------------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|-------------------------|
| | | l. | | | l. s. d. |
| 1802. | Expenditure 2,118 | | Aged men 137 | Equal to 82 | 23 18 0 |
| | Deduct ordinary repairs 164 | 1,957 | Boys 60 | | |
| 1803. | Gross 1,786 | | Aged men 167 | 85 | 20 16 9 |
| | Deduct ordinary repairs 78 | 1,708 | Boys 59 | | |
| 1804. | Gross 1,836 | | Aged men 137 | 82 | 23 5 7 |
| | Deduct ordinary repairs 27 | 1,909 | Boys 60 | | |
| 1805. | Gross 2,109 | | Aged men 167 | 85 | 24 8 0 |
| | Deduct ordinary repairs 56 | 2,053 | Boys 59 | | |
| 1806. | Gross 2,463 | | Aged men 177 | 101 | 24 2 0 |
| | Deduct ordinary repairs 29 | 2,444 | Boys 73 | | |
| 1807. | Gross 2,695 | | Aged men 157 | 117 | 22 18 6 |
| | Deduct ordinary repairs 30 | 2,665 | Boys 92 | | |
| 1808. | Gross 3,092 | | Aged men 187 | 137 | 22 0 0 |
| | Deduct ordinary repairs 76 | 3,016 | Boys 107 | | |

As the average of three years are pretty nearly the same, there is sufficient reason to believe that the economy of the house has been regu-

lar, the expense however far exceeds that of other charitable establishments in the country, which amounts in general to less than fifteen pounds

per head, including the salaries and diet of masters and servants.

Observations on Officers.

The emoluments of Mr. Radcliff the superintendant, altogether considerably exceed seven hundred pounds per annum, being at the rate of eight or nine pounds per head on the establishment. On the other hand the salaries of the other masters are too small; forty guineas is not sufficient for a master properly qualified to teach such a large number of boys, nor is twenty pound an adequate salary for the writing master; the masters should not be confined to the school room for so many hours a day. The present master is not more than twenty years of age. If he be allowed to have some time every day at his own disposal; he will, it may be reasonably hoped increase his knowledge, improve his understanding, and by those means deserve farther encouragement. An object, which in all situations should be held up to the servants of the public; without hope, even enthusiasm sinks into listlessness and inattention.

The good conduct of Mr. Radcliff, the present chaplain and superintendant, is acknowledged by those under his care, by the voice of the country, and above all by the trustees and guardians of the charity. He received a wound during the time of the rebellion, in defence of the hospital, which nearly deprived him of the use of his right hand. He has resided in the hospital twenty years, and has never been absent more days than amount in the whole to six months, being at the rate of nine days yearly, during that long period. It is therefore desirable, that he should be permitted to retire upon terms adequate to his just claims and reasonable wishes.

Supposing that such a measure could be effected, a salary of three hundred pounds a year, with apartments in the house, a separate kitchen and offices for his family (without any allowance for diet) would be an object to induce a clergyman of good character and abilities, and activity, to become the superintendant, as well as chaplain to this establishment.

The business of a superintendant should be to direct the under schoolmasters,

and also to take an active share in a distinct department of the education of the youth in the establishment. He should have nothing to do with the cares of the farm, these should be consigned to tenants, who should be bound by contract to supply the house with the produce of the land. It is stated in a paper annexed, that the farm is now as productive as it would be if it were let, but the experience of most gentlemen contradicts this opinion.

The salary of the present second master should be increased after four or five years, perhaps to £60. per annum; and the salary of the writing master to £40.

It appears that in the foundling hospital in Dublin, the clothes and shoes of the boys are manufactured in the house; this might be accomplished in Wilson's as well as in the Foundling Hospital; stocking and other looms might be applied for to those boards which are established for the purpose of encouraging our manufactures; and should these applications fail, the accumulating funds of the hospital could not be better applied than in furnishing workshops and tools to teach early industry in various branches of manufacture. It can scarcely be doubted, that to breed one hundred boys to be able to earn their own bread, is better than to bring up half as many more to be scarcely fit to become apprentices when they leave the hospital. For the purpose of teaching the boys at Wilson's Hospital such trades as will make them useful members of society when they are discharged from the house, it would be necessary that proper masters should be engaged at moderate salaries to instruct the boys; the salaries should in part be fixed, and in part they should depend upon the exertion and the success of the masters; they should not be allowed to make the boys work more than a certain number of hours in the day, but their reward should depend upon their teaching the boys in that time to work well and expeditiously. All the boys even the youngest, should have a share of the produce of their own industry, not in money, but in such indulgencies as are suited to their age;

as they grow older, the money profit of their labour should be laid by for them to assist in setting them forward in life. Thus the establishment should not in fact be so much a manufactory for the benefit of the house as for the benefit of the state; affording partly clothing for the boys, and and chiefly a fund for encouraging skill and application.

Such a plan as this would prevent any difficulty as to finding proper masters for the apprentices; because the boys would go out as journeymen. The boys, during the course of their education in the hospital would also apply with eagerness to learn trades, when they could look forward to freedom and to success in the world, as their rewards when they should quit the institution. Boys at a certain age might be bound to their respective masters in the hospital, and in the periods of admission and dismissal might be so regulated as to allow sufficient time for all the purposes that have been proposed.

To save expence, and to approximate the establishments for old men and boys, the teachers of the different trades might, if elderly men, be admitted on the foundation, without in any degree infringing upon the intentions of the founder, which appear to be not only charitable and beneficent, but wise and patriotic. Space for these establishments may be found in the present buildings of the hospital; if the farm belonging to it were let, the houses that have been built for labourers near the hospital, would serve as offices for the farmer, who should have no connection with the hospital, but to supply its demands at a certain rate and in certain quantities.

Among other healthy and profitable employments for the boys would be the cultivation of a nursery for trees, which is much wanted in the neighbourhood. The garden belonging to the hospital, which contains above four acres, affords an excellent opportunity for such an institution. The boys at present do scarcely any work out of doors, except hay-making and picking potatoes; they are kept even or eight hours every day at sedentary employments for seven years. Now

it is most certain, that by the present modes of instruction they might be taught reading, writing and arithmetic in one tenth part of that time, and both their minds and bodies would be improved by an alternation of active work and attendance in the school. A nursery for trees would require constant attention, but no violent labour; it would be an amusing occupation, and might be made interesting to the boys by giving them some share of the profits, and by allowing moderate competition among the little gardeners. To superintend their work a careful gardener of an advanced age must be found; he might be admitted into the house as one of the old men, if it were thought expedient.

In the literary education of the boys, advantage might be made of the time gained by the new method of teaching to read. There are many books now for young people which inculcate religion and morality, and at the same time convey useful instruction on the common affairs of life. A selection of these should be made for the hospital, and they might be given as rewards to the pupils. The superintendant is at present allowed to dispense twenty pounds a year in gratuities, this sum might be increased with advantage to the establishment.

Such are the general improvements that may be easily made in the education of the boys according to the present system; but by enlarging that system something more may be effected. It has already been observed, that there will in three years be a clear surplus of at least two thousand pounds a year, beside a capital of at least two thousand pounds. It is but reasonable to expect, that such an income, and such a magnificent establishment, should yield to the public something more than a yearly maintenance for twenty old men, and the putting out ten or twelve apprentices to ordinary trades. An attempt should therefore be made to introduce a higher species of education into the hospital, for such boys as evince superior merit and abilities. This would not only be advantageous to these individuals, but it would

create a laudable and efficient emulation in the whole School.

Plan of an Upper School.

The first object would be, to select these boys. For this purpose a regular book should be kept by the masters, arranged under various heads in columns. The comparative merit of each boy might be marked under each head by numbers, extending to three or four degrees. The conduct of each boy should be marked daily by the master, and brought forward to the ensuing page, so that at the end of the year the comparative merit of the boys might be in some degree ascertained. From the highest of these three classes, five boys should be annually selected by a gentleman of probity and discernment, chosen from time to time by the trustees of the hospital. This gentleman should examine the candidates in public and in private, separately and together; he should enquire from the masters and superintendant their general opinions, not only of the talents and industry, but of the temper and dispositions of the boys.

The five boys thus annually selected, should be distinguished from the lower school by their dress; and when they are fit to leave the hospital, they should have a new and handsome suit of clothes, such as are worn by persons in the station of life for which their education and their own application has fitted them.

The boys in this upper school should be placed under the care of the chaplain and superintendant. By him their religious and general instruction should be extended; they should be taught the higher branches of practical arithmetic, the practical use of algebraic calculation, the common principles of mechanics, the common notions of chemistry and botany, which are now almost universally disseminated in other countries; common surveying and mensuration, not only on paper but in the field. The head master should employ not more than four hours in the day in these instructions, part of which time should be spent out of doors, where many common objects might become the means of inculcating useful knowledge.

It may be said, that clergymen

sufficiently qualified to become masters of such an institution cannot easily be found; this difficulty will soon cease, when young men at the university know that there is a demand for such talents, and this very difficulty will also prevent the situation of superintendant and chaplain from becoming an object of patronage and interest.

The boys should likewise be taught the nicer parts of gardening, and the grafting and management of fruit trees. For this purpose it is necessary that the gardener of the hospital should be a man skilled in every branch of his business. Many old gardeners might probably be found who would be desirous of an asylum in this establishment, especially if they had a good salary.

For the upper school a library should be selected, containing books of more extended information than those of the lower school; the superintendant should as much as possible lead the boys to read and improve themselves upon the particular subjects which he teaches, endeavouring to introduce habits of thought, reflection and invention, rather than of mere memory and repetition. Talents are to be found every where in Ireland; judgment and good sense may therefore be ingrafted by patient care and well chosen instruction. By proper early attention, by books of clear and easy reasoning upon subjects that regard the future destination of the pupils, by small and gradual rewards, promoting moderate and generous emulation, by keeping continually in their view the relation which their present labours have to their future establishment in the world; it is hoped, that some improvement of the moral habits, as well as of the understandings of the rising generation may be slowly effected. From ignorance or ill-judged insufficient instruction, and from early examples of falsehood, dishonesty and insubordination, has arisen much of that propensity to out-rage and rebellion, which has been the misfortune and disgrace of this country.

The boys educated in this higher school should be led to consider degradation from it as the extreme line

of punishment. but if the boys and masters are well chosen, the necessity for this punishment can seldom occur. The boys in this department of the institution, will be prepared for situations higher than those of mere mechanics; for instance, for those of parish clerks and schoolmasters, situations which formerly were often united, and which are obviously suited to each other, for the joint salaries of these occupations would enable a man to live respectably, so as to be looked up to in the parish, instead of being obliged to struggle for a mere subsistence. The pupils of this higher school would also be fit for country surveyors, for sub-engineers and overseers, and under agents, classes of men much wanted in Ireland. They would also be peculiarly fit for tutors in the families of farmers, who live at a distance from towns, and who are now obliged to employ persons of ordinary manners and insufficient acquirements.

At all events, these boys, by their previous education in the lower school, would be able to earn immediate bread as journeymen in such manufactures as were taught in the hospital. But to these occupations they would not in all probability be obliged to have recourse, as only five boys would, according to this limited plan, be sent out yearly from this upper school, there can scarcely be a doubt of finding places for them all; particularly, if those who are at first sent out should answer the expectations of their employers.

The lower school, and the twelve that go from it yearly, are separate considerations. Were the institution of this secondary and upper school to fail, its failure could not be considerably injurious in point of discipline and expense; were it to succeed, it would be imitated where ever there are means of imitation. What could more effectually encourage the great mass of the people to accept of education for their children, than being witness of the success of those who had obtained advantageous situations, by their own meritorious application while they were at school.

Observations on the old Men.

With respect to the old men, at BELFAST MAG. NO XXV.

present two of them live out of the hospital. In the hospital, their diet is excellent in quantity and quality, their clothing warm and decent, their lodging a palace, and yet as they are idle they are not contented. There seems therefore no sufficient motive, to induce the trustees of Wilson's hospital to increase the number of the old men, unless they can be employed; and on the contrary, there appear the strongest inducements, from the state and extent of the buildings, the healthiness of the situation, the affluence of the funds, and the promising state of their present mode of instruction, to enlarge and encourage, and to render respectable the education of as many boys as the hospital can conveniently accommodate.

Observations on the Prejudice against Charity Schools.

Ireland is one of the few countries in the world, where absolute want, except in large cities, is unknown, and as among the lower Irish, filial piety is peculiarly prevalent, retirement to an hospital in old age is unpopular; but care should be taken to prevent this prejudice from extending to the idea of educating children in hospitals.

Every means should be taken to render it creditable to have been educated in our public charitable seminaries, which, from the reports before this board, appear to be in a flourishing condition, and promise to be of extensive and permanent advantage to this country.

Council Charter, Dublin Castle

12th May, 1809.

{ (Signed)

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------|
| WM. ARMAGH, | (L. S.) |
| GEO. HALL, Provost, | (L. S.) |
| JAS. VERSCHOYLE, | { (L. S.) |
| Dean of St. Patrick's | |
| JAS. WHITELAW, | (L. S.) |
| WILLIAM DISNEY, | (L. S.) |
| RICHD L. EDGEWORTH, | (L. S.) |
| R. S. TIGH, | (L. S.) |

To the Proprietors of the Belfast Magazine.

GENTLEMEN,
WHEN I was a young man, I was a passionate admirer of nature in her simple dress, or rather in her own dress; yet I would sooner have excused her being loaded with becoming ornaments, than to be misshapen. It gave me no small concern to see the wild

-luxuriance of the trees clipped off, and instead of walking under a beautiful natural shade, I was startled at every step by meeting a tall holly with a hat on, and its arms a kimbo, and below its thin waist it appeared to wear a hoop according to the fashion of those times; many other frightful figures daily and hourly shocked me where I might have reason to expect to meet nature herself in all beauty and luxuriance. Still more did I abhor the sight of horses with their tails set, and their ears cut off, and little dogs with their tails cut off. These and many more proofs I had of the extravagant folly and presumption of mankind in pretending to improve nature. Attempts to adorn her are bad, but distorting her is shocking. I observed that the nearer the works of nature approached to perfect beauty, the more pains were taken to deform them.

Of all things I wished to marry, & in my mind I had drawn the picture of a simple innocent young creature, who carelessly moved about in a loose robe, who always spoke her real mind, and unaffectedly fulfilled all her duties. With such a woman, thought I, I might enjoy life, and in whatever part of the world we should live, all should be simple and natural. It was in vain that I visited all the young women I knew, or heard of; they wore hoops, they pinched their bodies into the shape of an inverted sugar loaf. They dragged their hair almost off their heads, in order to erect a frightful fabric thereon; they painted their faces and necks, and thus disfigured their whole persons: their minds were in general as artificial, but their appearance in general so disgusted me, that I seldom took much pains to discover their mental qualities, concluding that they could not be to my taste or they would not disfigure themselves. In quest of Simplicity, I quit my native country, determining to trace her into whatever retreat she had fled; but in one country, I found people painting their faces with frightful colours, or scarifying their bodies, or pinching their feet, or stretching their mouths, or flattening their noses, and a thousand ways disfiguring themselves as badly or worse than my country-

men and women. After a great deal of travelling, I settled in America where I observed what they call civilization is not far advanced, were they so dreadfully savage as some countries. I kept up a regular correspondence with a friend who not think me as mad as some of my acquaintance; he was in some degree of my mind, and informed me from time to time of the follies and improvements of my country. I think it was in the year 1790—I know it was soon after the French revolution, that he congratulated me upon my country-women having renounced whalebone stays, which gave me a finite pleasure, particularly as I had before heard that there was a general downfall of the hideous buildings which were erected on the ladies' heads. I soon heard that high heeled shoes were no longer worn, and that the present generation did not know what a hoop was. But I had some sorrowful accounts of the waist being so extremely short as to make the women appear humpbacked and look unreasonably thick-waisted, which was not my wish, as I always had the Grecian model in my view, as being both natural and graceful. The letters I received about this time gave me very various information so that I could not judge whether or not there was any improvement.—I was no sooner pleased to hear of the ladies being of my mind with respect to their cinctures, than I was grieved to hear they wore little wool packs stuck upon different parts of their bodies both before and behind, and when I heard the agreeable tidings of the light floating robe which had been the dream of my youth, I was immediately informed the ladies wore no petticoats, but tucked their shifts, and wore train which were too long to sweep, but fell flat on the ground, or entangled in their legs. These were no part of my plan. A very short time after, the fabric fell from their heads, they shaved off their own hair, and wore a wig of a different colour.—When the dangling ruffles were laid aside, the entire sleeve followed, and many kinds of puckered shoulder knots were introduced, which gave

graceful nymph the appearance high shoulders. I could not understand that painting was by any means exploded in Great Britain and abroad, though the inconveniences & fatal consequences of such a mode were so well known. In the year 1807 my Correspondent assured me, that if I came to England, I might easily find that lovely female whom I so much wished for, but that the fashions were at present in an unsettled state, which proceeded from carelessness, that it would be impossible to describe them. In the next I ventured over, and was charmed to find in my friend's garden the appearance of elegant simplicity, but his wife and daughter were such curiously dressed beings, that I did not know whether the exploded or the present fashion was the more disgusting. He provided my friend for deceiving me, but he assured me, he was so familiarized to the various whimsical fashions of women, that he had in some cases adopted them. I observed every time a lady breathed, she seemed oppressed in her chest, and heaved up her shoulders; the waist indeed short as far as the gown was concerned, but the thin skirt was very ungracefully to the lower part of the waist and hips, which was closely pinched by whalebone. On inquiry I find the stays were not entirely filled with bones, but that on the stomach, and up and down the body as the fancy directs, the bones are set: by this means the parts which are not thought worthy to be fortified, bulge out most unbecomingly, if the girl be fat; and if she be thin, the consequence is not deforming; but every form is exceedingly injured by these cruel machines. I wonder when they were first invented, that our mothers did not put them on our more robust sisters. I must tell you that I have spent over a great deal of money, though I am above forty years of age, yet many girls would be glad to get me, but I will have none of them. Could you inform me of any simple, natural looking girl, I would marry a man of forty, and promise to renounce the fashionable fashions which are continu-

ally succeeding one another? I am at a great loss to know what inducement people have to disfigure themselves; sometimes I attribute it to that activity which prompts mankind to be busy, sometimes to the love of change, and again to the intolerable conceit which makes us think that we can do every thing better than it was done before. This is very well with respect to the works of art, but let no one alter the fair face of nature, perhaps all these reasons may have something to do in the matter, but from some circumstances I may impart to you in future, I am convinced that the principal reason that men and women invent modes of deformity, is, that some trouble and expense are necessary to carry the thing to much extent, therefore the poor people must even leave themselves to nature. These deforming machines also cramp the notions, and hurt the health, and there is nothing so interesting as a helpless, sickly female, but they grow old before their time, and are then not only sickly, but deformed, and tiresomely valetudinary. E.

To the Proprietors of the Belfast Magazine.

GENTLEMEN,

AS your magazine has such a widely extended circulation, I wish to consult you on a little matter which has often incommoded me very much. You know when a person is ill, it is natural for him to mention it to his friends, in hopes of meeting sympathy. I learned this custom when my old companion blessed my happy sight, and relieved all my cares and pains; if I tell my landlady that I feel a little of the gout in my toe, she immediately begins a dissertation upon the corn on her toe, which was occasioned by wearing a tight shoe, and for which she had tried every remedy in vain. Indeed it was painful to her that moment, and she was sure it would rain to-morrow.

If I complain to my landlady's daughter of a swelled gum, she asks me if her nose looks red and swelled, and begs I would give her a little ointment to grease her clipped lips. This makes me so angry, that I tell her that her nose is red, but not more so than usual, and I recommend

her to anoint her lips with candle grease.

If I tell my landlord that I was wet with a heavy shower as I was coming home, he tells me that his hay was injured by the same shower.

Now gentlemen, I wish you to remedy this evil, which is surely one of the "miseries of human life," and advise people not to tell their complaints for at least twenty minutes or an hour (according to the depth of the grievance) after they are complained to, because, as sympathy is one of the chief sources of happiness in society, they are by this mode of conduct deprived of this comfort, and also deprive the complainers of their sympathy; whereas, if they would first enter into my misfortune, and then tell their own, I could not in any decency refuse doing them the same favour, and my gratitude would make me do it most willingly, and with a most cordial and consoling grace, which would be remembered to me again, and thus a reciprocation of kindness would flow on most sweetly and naturally.

Many people who do not sympathize with me in this misery, might say that many old people would weary their neighbours with tales of their sickness, if they were attended to, and sympathized with, but they are mistaken, as my plan would lessen the discourse on sickness very much. In the first place there would be a chance of my friend forgetting the ailment of which my complaint reminded him, before the proper time arrived for communicating it; and in the next place, when we are sure of meeting sympathy, we are afraid it will amount to pain in the mind of our friend, so that we do not dwell much on such discourse for that reason.

Yours,

AN OLD VALETUDINARIAN.

To the Proprietors of the *Belfast Magazine*.

*REMARKS ON M'S ACCOUNT OF COLONEL JEPHSON'S PROLOGUE.
GENTLEMEN,

THOUGH it may appear rather late, to advert to any thing in

* The present Conductor of the *Magazine*.

your number for August 1809, yet the distance from Belfast to London, where, I have the pleasure to assure you your useful work is much approved and commended, and my not having had a convenient opportunity of conveying this to you before, will, I hope, be a sufficient apology. Pleased as I was with Lord Mountjoy's or Colonel Jephson's prologue, page 130 vol. III. I could wish to be informed, how the old Irish chieftan disposed of his half boots and saffron sleeves, as his legs and arms were bare. His sleeves, indeed, I may presume, were merely ornamental, like those of Thady's great-coat in Miss Edgeworth's delightful story of Castle Rackrent, and never the worse for wear: but then, how were the half boots managed? They were not slung over the shoulders by way of ornament too, I should suppose I am, gentlemen, your sincere admirer and well wisher, S.N.

London, June 5, 1810.

For the *Belfast Monthly Magazine*.

APPENDIX, NO. 3, TO THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF ROADS, &c.

Extract of a Letter from William Jessop, esq. *Butterfly*.

THE principal use that we have made of cylindric wheels has been in the carriage of heavy goods or materials on a private road of about two miles in length, chiefly in one-horse carts with six-inch wheels, but till within twelve months past we have used other common carriages, and even now there are some of the latter sort, as we have only increased the number of those with proper wheels as the others have

gone, wishing to excuse errors which occurred before it was submitted to his superintendence, as well as those of a later date, begs leave to suggest to S. N. that a passage similar to that to which he objects, occurs in the works of a celebrated English poet.

"A painted vest prince Vortigern had on,
Which from a naked Pict his grandaie won."

It will be time enough therefore for the author of the prologue to account for the management of O'Neil's boots, when S.N. can show how the naked Pict wore his vest.

been worn out. The quantity of carriage on this road amounts at an average to about 25 tons per day. The road is flat, and the material used in repairing it not very hard; but the benefits which we have derived from the use of those carriages are, that the cost of repairs is not more than one-fourth of what it was before we made use of them, and in lieu of a bad road we have now a very good one. I hardly need to say that the saving in the labour of horses has been, of course, very considerable.

We have one waggon with cylindric nine-inch wheels, which we use on the public roads, and with all the disadvantage that must be suffered by travelling on a road where no other carriage of the same sort is used, we find no difficulty in drawing from hence to the town of Derby (a distance of eleven or twelve miles) seven tons of iron with six horses (exclusive of the weight of the carriage) while the common carrier, at the same season of the year, has used nine horses to draw something less than five tons.

Sir John Sinclair, Bart.

Mr. Jessop's parole evidence on the subject of Cylindrical Wheels.

Do you think cylindrical wheels would answer equally well where the roads are rounded? They would answer as well, excepting that as the weight would be thrown more upon one wheel than another, they would be more liable to accident and to breaking the wheels, if they were not in a good state of repair; but in all cases, whether of round or flat roads, they would answer much better than conical wheels.

How would they do where the roads are rough? Not so well as where the roads are smooth, but much better than the conical wheels.

Would there be any utility in giving a small degree of lateral convexity to the periphery of the wheel? All the roads I have seen, though convex, are made so little so, within the breadth of a carriage, that I think there would be hardly any advantage worth consideration in making them otherwise than flat; and the making the periphery of the wheel at all convex, could only be advisable in the case

of roads being made convex in an extreme degree, and the wheel being of an extraordinary breadth.

Would not the convexity of the wheel render the bearing narrower than if the wheel was flat, whether the road was flat or convex? It would make the bearing less on the convex road than on the flat road.

If cylindrical wheels were universal in this country, and even enforced in the present state of our roads, what, in your opinion, would be the saving in the number of horses? I think that it would be a saving of at least one in four, and would be a saving of iron in the tire of wheels at least one-half, and in the wear and tear of carriages nearly about in the same proportion; and the saving also in the repair of roads would be from sixty to seventy per cent or more.

Do you think that the advantages to be derived from cylindrical wheels will be found in the use of those of sixteen inches wide, equally with those of smaller breadths, as applied to the convex form of roads? I think, as applied to the present form of convex roads, it would not be desirable to have the broadest wheels of more than twelve inches, in reference to the general principle. Sixteen-inch wheels, upon flat roads, might in some cases be better than twelve inches; but considering the increased expence of making them, and the increased weight of very broad wheels, I think twelve-inch wheels* would be found preferable in all cases to wider ones. In the present state of the roads it is found advisable to make wheels comparatively high, because they more easily get over the obstacles that are found in the roads, and because from the less number of revolutions, there is proportionably less friction upon the axis; but when, ever, by the use of cylindrical wheels, the roads may become smooth, it will be found advisable to use lower wheels, because they will be less expensive in making, and more will be saved by the saving of the weight than will be lost by the increased friction of the axis.

* For waggons.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

HINTS TO A POETICAL FRIEND.

COWPER should not be your model for the structure of blank verse. Milton (*Paradise Lost* especially) far transcends him and all the poetical world in the admirable "building of the lofty line," thoroughly to understand the subject, you should carefully study *Sheridan's art of reading poetry*, in this he develops the nature and the properties of Rhythm, the power of the pause of suspension, on which the beauty of blank verse so greatly depends, and all the other important and minute circumstances that influence its construction; he takes Milton as his great *example* and his *theme*, and from his immortal original, deduces a system of harmonious variety in blank verse, which must essentially assist a poet in the technical department of composition. Akenside ranks next to Milton in these grand requisites. Cowper seemed to disdain these artifices, and the consequence is, that in some passages he is distressingly and unnecessarily rugged—to his elision also I have an insuperable objection, but his sentiment is invaluable, his morality pure and impressive, and a vein of religion pervades the work, which, like the gold in Lapis Lazuli, imparts richness without heaviness, and seems not superinduced by art, but to have entered into the original frame and composition of the subject. L.

CHARTER OF CARRICKFERGUS.

Continued from p. 427, No. XXIII.

AND furthermore we have granted, and by these presents for us, our heirs, and successors, do grant unto the said mayors, sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty of the aforesaid town, and to their successors, that they, or the greater part of them, whereof we will, that the mayor of the said town for the time being, shall be one at their will and pleasure, without our license, or the license of our heirs, or successors, shall be able, and of power from time to time, as often as it shall seem expedient unto them, according unto their own discretion to elect and admit others

whatsoever, either one or more to be free burgesses of the same town. And that all and every such free burgesses of the aforesaid town, which either now are, or hereafter shall be elected, or admitted as aforesaid, may be able, and of power to enjoy, and use all their free commerce, functions, mysteries, crafts, trades and traffics, and all and every other liberties, and free customs pertaining or belonging to the free burgesses of the same town, according to the laws, customs, liberties, and ordinances of the said town, we will notwithstanding, and by these presents, for us, our heirs, and successors, do grant unto the said mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty of the aforesaid town, and to their successors, that they, or the greater part of them, whereof we will that the mayor of the said town (for the time being shall be one) may be able, and of power, at their will and pleasure, from time to time, as often as it shall seem expedient, that if any one or more whatsoever of the free burgesses, or inhabitants of the said town, do not carry and behave themselves as doth, and shall become a free burgess of the town, or do refuse to take the oath commonly called the oath of supremacy, specified and set down in a statute in parliament, held in this kingdom, in the second year of the reign of our late dear sister lady Elizabeth of England, France and Ireland, queen, then to depose and put from the said liberties, and from their free commerce within the said town, and the franchises of the same, as also from the exercise and benefit of any, their functions, mysteries, or other crafts within the said town, and the franchises of the same, and from the use and benefit of the liberties and free customs of the said town, as long as it shall seem expedient to the said mayor, sheriffs, burgesses and commonalty, or to the greater part of them, of whom we will that the mayor of the said town for the time being shall be one.

And further we will, and by these presents for us, our heirs and successors, we do grant unto the said mayor, sheriffs, burgesses and com-

monalty of the aforesaid town of Knockfergus, that they, or the greater part of them, of whom we will that the said mayor of the same town for the time being, shall be one, and shall from time to time, and at all times for ever hereafter yearly, have power on every Monday next after the feast of the nativity of St. John the Baptist, to elect, and to name, and that they may be able and of power to elect and nominate one alderman of the said town, which shall be mayor of the said town one whole year, from the first day of St. Michael the Archangel, next following. And that every such person from time to time as aforesaid elected, and nominated in the mayoralty of the said town, before he be admitted to exercise said office, shall take and swear as well the oath heretofore used there to the mayor of the said town, as also the oath commonly called the oath of supremacy, heretofore specified, upon the feast of St. Michael the Archangel, next following such nomination or election in our said castle of Carrickfergus, in our county of Antrim, before the constable, or in his absence, before the deputy constable of the said castle, for the time being, and in the presence of the last mayor, going before of the said town, if he be then living, and in full and perfect health, and not removed from the office of mayoralty aforesaid, and if the last predecessor mayor of the said town, shall by that time happen to die, or to be removed from his aforesaid office, at the time of the administration of the said oath, we will, that then, and so often that the said oath shall be administered in our said castle, by the constable or deputy constable of the said castle of Knockfergus aforesaid, in presence of such of the aldermen and burgesses of the same town, as shall be then present, and not otherwise. And that every such person so elected and nominated in the mayoralty of the said town, after that he had taken and sworn the aforesaid oath, in the manner and form aforesaid, may be able, and of power to execute the said office of mayoralty of the said

town, for one whole year from that time next following, and from thence until some one of the aldermen of the said town from the time being, shall be elected, perfected and sworn to the office of mayoralty of the same town according to the orders and customs in these presents, expressed and declared. And furthermore for us, our heirs and successors, we do give and grant unto our constable, of our said castle of Knockfergus, for the time being, and to all other and singular the constables of the said castle, which from henceforth shall be ever hereafter, and to every of them, and in the absence of him, them, or any of them, to the deputy constable of the said castle of Knockfergus, for the time being for ever, the full power and authority of administering the said oath of the mayor of Knockfergus aforesaid, heretofore used, as also the aforesaid oath called the oath of supremacy, before specified unto the said mayor of the said town of Knockfergus aforesaid, that now is, and also to all and singular other persons whatsoever, who hereafter from time to time for ever shall be elected and named to the office of the said mayor, of the said town of Knockfergus, and to every of them in as ample manner and form to all intents and purposes, as if particulars and special commissioners under the great seal of Ireland, to them, and every of them respectively in that behalf, from time to time had been granted, any statute, act, or ordinance to the contrary thereof, notwithstanding.

And further we will, for us, our heirs, and successors, grant to the aforesaid mayor, sheriffs, burgesses and commonalty of the town aforesaid, and their successors, that if it shall happen that the mayor of the town aforesaid, for the time being, or any time hereafter during the time that he is in his said office, die or be removed from his said office for any other good and sufficient cause, by the aldermen, burgesses, and commonalty of the town aforesaid, for the time being, or by the greater number of them, so that the greater number of the aldermen of the said

town be then present. That then and so often as it shall be lawful to the aforesaid aldermen, burgesses, and commonalty of the said town, and their successors for the time being, to assemble and gather themselves, or the greater part of them, within ten days, next following after the death or removal of such mayor in the Tholsell or court-house of the town aforesaid, or in any other convenient place within the town aforesaid, and there choose notiate and perfect one other good and fit man out of the aldermen of the town aforesaid, to be mayor of the said town in the place of such mayor so dying, or happening to be removed from his said office. And, that every such person into the office of mayoralty so chosen and perfected after that he hath taken the oaths aforesaid, in manner aforesaid have and exercise the said office during the remainder of the said year, and until another alderman of the town be elected and sworn to the office of the mayor of the said town; and further we will and by these presents for us our heirs and successors, grant to the aforesaid mayor and sheriffs, burgesses and commonalty of the said town of Knockfergus aforesaid, and to their successors, that it shall be lawful to the mayor, sheriffs and aldermen of the said town of Knockfergus or the greater part of them (whereof the mayor of the town for the time being we will to be one) at any time or times before the feast of Easter next following the date of these presents or at any other time or times when it shall seem most expedient to them, to assemble themselves in the Tholsell and courthouse of the said town or in any other convenient place within the said town, and there choose and notiate others of the free burgesses or inhabitants of the said town to be aldermen of the said town to supply and make up the full number of seventeen aldermen of the said (to wit) the number of sixteen aldermen beside the mayor of the said town aforesaid for the time being, which alderman, so chosen and notiated and every one of them shall take their corporal oaths in that case before used

before the mayor of the town aforesaid, for the time being, to execute rightly well and faithfully their office of aldermen of the said town, and that they alter such oaths so taken the office of alderman of the said town may have and exercise during his or their natural lives, unless they or some of them or any one of them for some just or sufficient cause shall be removed or put from their office or offices.

And if any one or more of the said aldermen of the aforesaid town being elected as aforesaid, shall die or be removed, or put from his or their offices, by the mayor of the said town for the time being, that then the mayor of the same town and the rest of the aldermen of the same town for the time being, which then shall be gathered and assembled in the Tholsell or courthouse of the same town, or other convenient place, which in the same town according to their discretions, limited and assigned, or the greater part of them so met together, and assembled (of whom we will that the mayor of the same town for the time being, shall be one) for as often as any such cases shall happen that they shall be able and of power to elect and make one, two three or four, or as many as shall be wanting of the aforesaid number of aldermen not exceeding the number of sixteen aldermen, besides the mayor of the same town for the time being, of the better and more honest burgesses of the same town, in the room of any such alderman or aldermen then dead or removed from his or their offices, without our license, or the license of our heirs or successors, in that part or behalf, had, or obtained, and that every such person thus elected, and taking the oath to execute the office of an alderman of the same town, well and truly as is aforesaid, shall and may have, and exercise the office of an alderman of the same town during his natural life, unless for some good and sufficient cause he be removed or put from his said office as aforesaid.

To be Continued.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF DISTINGUISHED PERSONS:

MEMOIRS OF THE LIFE AND BOTANICAL TRAVELS OF ANDRÉ MICHAUX, BY DE-LEUZE.

Continued from No. XXIV. p. 42.

IN the following autumn Michaux formed the design of visiting Spanish Florida, and, having obtained passports from Senior Lapedez, the Spanish governor, proceeded to St. Augustine, where he arrived in February 1788, with his son, and a negro who was particularly attached to him. The governor, to whom he was announced as a botanist travelling for instruction in his science, did not however give him his permission to penetrate into the country without a long examination; but a few days after, having learnt that, on the covers of letters sent to Michaux from Charlestown, he was styled botanist to the king of France, he treated him with much respect, and offered him an escort for his excursions.

We may readily suppose that this offer made no change in the plans of our traveller. He remained at St. Augustine till the 12th of March, to explore the productions of the neighbourhood, and to acquire information respecting the interior of the country, which is at present absolutely uninhabited. Having hired a guide, he repaired to the mouth of the Tomaco, where he bought one of the canoes used in the navigation of those rivers. These canoes, formed of the hollowed trunk of the *Cupressus disticha*, are twenty-two feet in length; but they are scarcely three feet round the bottom, and only two and a half in depth. Two persons cannot sit abreast in them, but one seats himself behind the other. Michaux, his son, his negro, and their guide, were placed in this order in their long vessel, therestill remaining a large space for the reception of plants. They rowed by turns, and, thus mounting the river, explored the creeks. Michaux keeping his eye upon the shore, when he saw an interesting spot, fastened his canoe, landed, and made excursions to a considerable distance.

He was in a climate very different from those he had traversed the preceding years. Here the orange-tree grew with scarcely any care, and

even the sugar-cane had been cultivated some years before. But the voyage was not the less painful; frequently in the creeks there was not sufficient water to float the canoe, and they were then obliged to roll it along upon the trunks of trees, and to carry the baggage with which it was laden. He was compelled to live on fish, and the oranges he found in the woods. These oranges, though not sweet, never incommoded him. He afterwards entered the river St. John, and in five days arrived in Lake St. George, into which there falls another small river, which he also ascended, not without being frequently compelled to roll the boat in the manner before described. This river, which is very deep, and abounding with fish, presents a singular phenomenon: its waters have a detestable taste, are of the colour of brimstone, and yet so clear, that the smallest branches of trees that have been sunk may be seen at the bottom. It rises in a lake in which there are various jets d'eau of fifteen or eighteen inches. On its banks he found an *Illicium* with a yellow flower, the perfume of which was equal to that of the Chinese one, and which may be put to the same uses.

This excursion occupied five weeks. In his journal he observes, that he found it very convenient and agreeable, because, not being compelled to resort to horses, he had no fear of his collections going astray. This trait shows that he estimated fatigue as nothing. When he took his leave of the Spanish governor, he presented him with a box of seeds for the garden of Madrid. He proceeded to Savannah by the lakes, notwithstanding the danger of being attacked by the Creek Indians, who were at that time at war with the Anglo-Americans. From Savannah he returned by sea to Charlestown. The *Illicium* arrived in a healthy condition; and this new species, preferable to that found near Pensacola, was soon spread round the neighbourhood. Michaux supposed, that, if it were cultivated on a large scale in South Carolina, it would amount to no more in France than eighteen sous per pound.

Returned to his garden at Charlestown, he enriched it with new plantations, from which he sent large packages to France. He had established correspondence in every place that he had visited, sending to the inhabitants European seeds and plants in exchange for such of the vegetable productions of the country as he chose; which he had previously pointed out to his agents, with directions for the proper season of gathering them. He travelled generally from the month of April to October; and during his absence two gardeners and a negro, whom he had instructed in the art, cultivated his garden, and carefully gathered his seeds. In winter he made shorter excursions, to collect a few young trees, in places which he had noticed in the summer season.

Although the temperature of the Bahama Islands, and that of the Lucayas, differ too much from that of Europe to admit of the naturalization of their productions in France; the desire of giving a complete Flora of North America, from the tropic to Hudson's Bay, induced Michaux to visit them. He arrived at New Providence on the 26th of February 1789, where he was well received by the governor of the colony, to whom he presented seeds to be sent to Sir Joseph Banks. In these isles he collected 680 trees and shrubs, and prevailed on the governor to introduce into them the culture of the vine and date, which from the nature of the soil he saw would succeed there, promising to send him some young plants of the date; and it will be readily supposed that he kept his word. He sent also young plants of the same to St. Augustin, where there had long been a female date forty feet high, which for want of a male could not bear fruit.

On his return to Charlestown on the first of May 1789, Michaux first learned the events which then agitated France. He now found great difficulty in receiving the funds necessary to his expenses; and supposing that he should soon be recalled, he seized the opportunity to visit the highest mountains of Carolina. Departing on the 30th of May, he proceeded to Morganton, a village situated a hundred leagues from the coast, where he took a guide, with whom he plunged

into the forests. At several days' journey from every habitation of man, the guide, having thrown himself upon a bear which he had brought to the ground, was severely wounded, and was in danger of being killed. Michaux takes this occasion to observe that in these solitudes it is essential to have two guides, there being various accidents by which one may perish, and it would be almost a miracle for an European to find his way back alone. He cannot follow the bed of the torrent, interrupted by prodigious falls, the banks of which are precipices of rocks undermined by the waters, which giving way under the feet, precipitate the traveller into the stream. If he climb a mountain to descry the nature of the country, he perceives nothing as far as the sight extends but the summits of similar mountains, with intervening plains, covered with *Rhododendron*, *Kulmia*, and *Azalea*; above which, large trees, here and there, rear their lofty heads. These woods are impenetrable to an European: the Indian alone is able to discover tracks; the former having no conception how he is to direct his course in these immense wilds.

This excursion, which Michaux made with his son, occupied less time than he had dedicated to it; for, the Indians having at that time a dispute with the inhabitants of Virginia, an European incurred the hazard of being massacred. He therefore returned to New York, and thence to Philadelphia and Charlestown, where he arrived within five months and a half from the time of his departure.

War being declared between France and England, his correspondence with Europe was interrupted for two years, which time he employed in augmenting his nurseries, and in naturalizing several trees of Asia, the seeds of which he had procured from American captains trading to China, with a view to accustom the inhabitants to the culture of useful vegetable productions. Having got considerable quantities of ginseng (*Panax quinque folium*) he taught the inhabitants in what manner, and at what season to gather this valuable plant, in order to preserve the qualities for which it is so much esteemed in China: at last he communicated his various obser-

vations to a society of agriculturists at Charlestown, of which he was admitted a member.

Mean time his finances diminished, and he was apprehensive of being obliged to quit America. His mind had been long occupied with a project of infinite importance to science, which was to determine the native places of the various trees of North America; in what latitude they thrive the most; where they begin to languish, till at length they disappear entirely; and also at what altitude on the mountains they will grow, and in what soil they flourish most. He considered the native country of a tree to be that where it multiplies most and grows to the greatest size. Thus he concluded that the tulip-tree is a native of Kentucky, since it there forms vast forests, grows to seven or eight feet in diameter, and to one hundred and twenty feet in height, in a rich clayey soil that is never inundated. Both in more elevated and lower situations, where the soil of course is of a different nature, these trees become more rare and of smaller dimensions.

It was with a design of thus tracing the botanical topography of North America that Michaux had visited the Floridas; and he now wished to proceed northwards as far as Hudson's Bay. To execute this project he made use of his last means. He applied to merchants who had the utmost confidence in his integrity, from whom he procured the money necessary for his purpose, giving them bills of exchange on persons at Paris, the managers of his patrimony. This journey was the longest and the most difficult that he had yet undertaken, but it was also of a nature to be the most useful. Having made a proper disposition for the due care of his plantations at Charlestown, he departed on the 18th of April 1792, passed through New-York, and providing for the care of his gardens, proceeded by land to Quebec, where he arrived on the 10th of June.

At Quebec he collected information respecting the neighbourhood of Hudson's bay, furnished himself with provisions and articles of barter; and

ascending the river of St Laurent, proceeded to Tadoussac, a miserable village, situated at the mouth of the river Saugenev, fifty leagues from Quebec, and a station to which the Indians bring their furs. At this place he bought two bark canoes.

The Indians make these canoes with the bark of a species of birch (*Betula papyrifera* Hort. Kew.) for which purpose they choose in the spring the largest and the firmest of these trees, on the trunk of which they make two circular incisions at four or five feet distance, with a longitudinal incision on each side; and at the rise of the sap the bark is easily detached. The ribs are made with thin strips of the white cedar (*Cupressus thuyoides*) and the pieces of bark united by sewing them with an awl and the fibrous roots of the white fir (*Abies alba*) first boiled to take off the rind. The seams are then covered with the resin of the balm of Gilead fir (*Abies balsamea*). These canoes weigh about fifty pounds: they will hold four men and their baggage, and last a long time. When the Indians intend to proceed to a great distance in the chase, they are accompanied by their wives, who carry the canoe from one torrent to another.

Michaux took four Indians to accompany him, and embarked upon the Chicoutoume, in order to ascend to Lake St. John. This river is extremely rapid; in some places broad, and in others very narrow. Prodigious rocks impede its course; and the country being excessively mountainous, it is often precipitated in immense falls. In such places the canoe is carried, and the travellers climb the precipices on foot, often being compelled to go many hundred toises round.

At the end of six days navigation, Michaux entered Lake St. John, on the banks of which he collected a great number of plants. Here is the last station in those northern countries for carrying on the fur trade. He afterwards proceeded up the river named Mistassén (although it does not come from the lake of that name) where he saw a water-fall, of which all the wonderful reports he had heard

had not given him any competent idea. The river, divided into various branches, is in breadth about two hundred toises, and is precipitated from a mountain about two hundred and fifty toises in height. This mountain is in the form of an amphitheatre, on the steps of which trees are seen through the arch of water formed by the fall over their lofty heads. The torrent rushes down the steep with an awful sound, and breaking into myriads of particles, the vapours rise like a cloud, wetting all the neighbourhood to a great distance. The torrent, repelled in its fall by the opposite banks, forms swells, which between two rapid currents covered with foam, leave spaces in which the water is tranquil and navigable, through the windings of which the Indians dexterously guide their canoes. Michaux speaks of their dexterity as inconceivable, but in our opinion his courage is more so: we tremble in viewing him penetrate between the two arms of the cascade, to gather a few plants upon the rocks, or silent stand in contemplation of the grandeur of the scene.

Ascending the river, he found a cabin, in which he was well received, and regaled with the boiled flesh of the beaver and preserved cranberries. It is in this desert country that the beavers live in society. Their ingeniously constructed habitations, by their solidity, render the navigation of the river difficult. The canoes must often be unladen, and carried over dykes which these animals have constructed. As man makes war upon them, they are no longer found but in the most northern and uninhabited countries.

After having traversed several mountains, the voids between which are filled with stagnant waters, Michaux, on the 3d of August, entered a small river which conducts into the Lake Mistassén. The weather was now excessively cold, with a fall of snow; notwithstanding which he continued his route, and on the 4th of September arrived on the lake. After having explored the borders, he descended a river which empties itself into Hudson's bay. He followed its course during

two days, and was at no considerable distance from the bay, when the Indians, deeming it hazardous to advance more towards the north in that season, insisted positively on returning, declaring that, if the snow continued to fall, their retreat would become impracticable.

Michaux had ascertained the position of the countries, and determined which were the points the most elevated, and what was the communication between the different lakes and Hudson's bay. He had exactly marked at what latitude the trees ceased to grow. In these vast solitudes none but a dreary vegetation was found, consisting of black and stunted pines, which bore their cones at four feet from the ground, dwarf birch and service trees, a creeping juniper, the black currant, the *Linnaea borealis*, *Ledum*, and some species of *Vaccinium*: all the fine trees which grow in the neighbourhood of Quebec had disappeared.

The return was difficult and painful, from the swelling of the torrents.

The Indians, however, descended with an inconceivable velocity, successfully conducting the canoe among the rocks; but the morasses, across which it was necessary to carry the canoe, were an obstacle to be surmounted only by courage and constancy. In these marshes, covered with *Sphagnum palustre*, among which grow *Ledum* and *Vaccinium*, our traveller sunk at every step to the knee, and was incessantly wet. As he was returning, he met two companies of Indians, whom he attended to the chase.

On the first of October Michaux arrived at Tadoussac, where he took leave of the companions of his journey, who had rendered him all the services in their power with great zeal, and the most scrupulous honesty.

I have often heard Michaux say, that when the Indians of Canada are not at war with the American colonies, the traveller is sure of meeting with a favourable reception; he nevertheless shuns them, because he is exposed to be despoiled of his provisions when he meets them. If they have killed game, and are at their repeat, he

may sit down with them, without saying a word, and partake of their fare; but if they are themselves pressed with hunger, they will take the traveler's provisions without scruple, till they are satisfied, leaving him, however, what they do not eat. As they frequently pass many days without nourishment, their meals are longer, and more abundant than those of Europeans. The Indians of Canada, and those of the upper Mississippi, have a particular attachment to the French, whom they recognise at the first glance.

From Tadoussac, Michaux returned to Philadelphia, where he arrived on the 8th of December; having been absent from Charlestown for the space of eight months, of which time he had employed three months and eighteen days in proceeding from Quebec above Lake Mistassén, in the fifty-second degree of latitude, and 160 leagues distance from every habitation.

Shortly after his return he presented to the Philosophical Society at Philadelphia, the plan of an expedition, the object of which was to explore the vast countries to the west of the Mississippi, and to determine exactly the position of the ridge of mountains which runs across New Mexico. He explained the advantages which the United States might acquire from such a journey, and his plan was exceedingly well received by Mr. Jefferson. It was on the point of being executed; 5000 piasters (26000 livres) were already subscribed, and every arrangement was made, when Citizen Genest, minister of the French Republic, arriving at Philadelphia, claimed the services of Michaux, and charged him with a negotiation with an American general, an inhabitant of Kentucky, whither he was sent with the title of civil and political agent. As France was at that time at war with Spain, a design was formed by the French government to seize upon Louisiana, and Michaux was sent to the general, who was to command the troops, to concert with him the means of executing this plan. He was also commissioned to proceed to the borders of the Mississippi, to treat with the Indians, and engage them in the interests of France.

This political employ was by no

means suitable to the peaceable disposition and pursuits of Michaux; but he could not refuse his country the services which she demanded of him. He therefore departed on the 15th of July 1793, passed the Alleghany mountains, and descended the Ohio to Louisville. Three months after, affairs relative to his mission compelled him to return to Philadelphia. To take the shortest route, which was necessary to his object, he was compelled to pass through Virginia, from which he was separated by vast forests inhabited only by savages, who attacked travellers. He traversed these deserts in company with a caravan of twelve people. After five days forced march the troops separated at Holston, and Michaux, accompanied by his guides, proceeded thence to Philadelphia in twenty four days, notwithstanding the rigour of the season, and the badness of the roads. He arrived at Philadelphia on the 12th of December 1793, after a route of eight hundred leagues.

He found M. Genest had been replaced by Fauchet, and that the question of invading Louisiana was no longer in agitation; he determined therefore to return to Charlestown.

In order to arrive there at the commencement of the spring, and not lose the seed-time, he departed from Philadelphia on the 9th of February 1794. This journey he made by land in thirty-six days, every where selecting all such natural productions as were remarkable.

On the 14th of July following he again took his departure to visit the interior of North Carolina, and the highest of the Alleghany mountains.

Returning on the second of October he occupied himself in gathering the autumnal plants, in cultivating his garden, and arranging the collections he proposed to send to France.

His stay at Kentucky had been too short to allow him to avail himself of its vegetable riches. He regretted that he had not been able to follow the banks of the Mississippi, and to proceed to the country of the Illinois; for a distance of four hundred leagues was nothing to him. By again pledging his property in France, he procured the means of making another excursion, which occupied nearly a

year, and the fruits of which were a great number of precious plants. I shall not attempt to describe the obstacles he had to surmount, or the adventures he encountered with the Indians. Enough has already been said to display his intrepidity, and his zeal for the science; we will only observe, that being perfectly acquainted with the geography of the different countries, he went from time to time to the European establishments, situated on the banks of the rivers, leaving with them packages to be sent to his plantation; the expense of the carriage of which was repaid with an ample profit, when no accident prevented their arriving in due time.

At his return to Charlestown, on the 11th of April 1796, he found his nursery in the most flourishing condition. His plantations were extremely grand and showy, being composed not only of the finest trees of the country, but of a beautiful collection of European and Asiatic trees, which he had undertaken to naturalize in America, in many of which his success was complete, such as the tallow tree (*Croton sebiferum* L.) the scented olive (*Olea fragrans* L.) the silk tree (*Mimosa Julibrissin*) *Sterculia platanifolia* L.; the Persian pomegranate. His plantation now became every day more dear to him; but he had exhausted his last resources, and had no other means of livelihood left but either to engage himself in the service of a foreign government, or to sell a collection which he had destined to adorn and benefit his country. Averse to both these alternatives, he resolved to return to France.

He sailed from Charlestown on the 27th Thermidor, in the fourth year (13th August 1796). The voyage was not marked with any misfortune till the 18th Vendemiaire, when, the vessel being in sight of the coast of Holland, a dreadful storm arose. The sails were torn to pieces, the masts carried away, and the ship was wrecked on the rocks. Both the crew and passengers being worn out with fatigue, the greater part would have perished but for the exertions of the inhabitants of Egmond, a small village in the neighbourhood. Michaux was washed to one of the yards, and was

insensible when he was carried to the village. He did not return to himself till many hours afterwards, when he found himself, before a fire, with strange clothes on, and surrounded by about fifty persons. His first thoughts were to inquire for his collection. When he learned that his trunks, containing his other effects, had been carried away by the waves, but that the cases which held his collection, being at the bottom of the hold, had been saved, he was at once easily consoled for his misfortune. Although his health was by this time in a bad state, he was compelled to remain six weeks at Egmond, undergoing excessive fatigue night and day. His plants having been wet by the waves, he was obliged to immerse them in fresh water, and then to dry them one after another in fresh paper.

On the 5th Frimaire (25th of November) he repaired to Amsterdam, where he was expected, and an order was given to the custom house to dispense with the ceremony of inspecting his packages. Leaving this city on the 10th, he arrived at Paris on the 3d Nivose, and on the 4th he paid a visit to the professors of the Museum.

Being here received with the most flattering distinctions by men of science and learning, by the members of the government, and by the National Institute, of which he was an associated member, and having the happiness again to join his family and friends, after an absence of ten years, a cruel misfortune still embittered this enjoyment. Of more than sixty thousand trees which he had sent to France, a small number only remained; the fine plantations of Rambouillet having been laid waste during the ravages of the revolution. But calm being restored, and the return of strength gradually enabling him to re-commence his labours, he still consoled himself with the hope of repairing his losses. He began by placing in order the seeds collected in his latter journeys, which he divided among M. Cels, M. le Monnier, and the Museum.

He then requested the National Institute to make a report respecting his collections, and Messrs. Lacepede, Dulongmieu, Jussieu, and Cels, were charged

with this office: the two first on the subjects of zoology and mineralogy, and the other two on botany and agriculture. Finally he presented to the minister a memoir on the state in which he had left his American nurseries, and solicited the means of rendering himself still more useful than he had ever been. During seven years he had received no part of his salary; the war having induced such heavy expenses, very small indemnification was granted to him, and the republic held itself freed from the engagements of the ancient government. For the first time in his life, Michaux now felt an inquietude respecting his private circumstances. Reproaching himself with having consumed the fortune of his son, and never having entertained the wish of enriching himself, he now limited his desires to the recovery of the patrimony he had sacrificed in his public undertakings. Failing in these hopes, having in vain solicited a commission to return to America, and regarding it as a sacred duty to commence no new enterprise at his own expense, he was consumed by the most devouring chagrin; yet from the uncommon strength of his mind he did not permit himself to be entirely cast down, but gave himself up wholly to new labours; arranging the observations he had collected, preparing his history of oaks, and collecting the materials of a North American Flora, he lived in the mean time in Paris with the same simplicity as if he had still been among the Indians.

At this time, M. le Monnier being attacked with a malady which soon snatched him away from his friends and the sciences, Michaux quitted all his pursuits, to pass with him every moment that he thought could be useful to him; and after the death of his respectable friend and protector, he went to reside at his house, to assume the care of his gardens, and to render to his widow every possible service: and in these inestimable duties of gratitude and friendship he gradually lost the remembrance of his own particular misfortunes.

His history of oaks was now printed, but the engravings were not finished, when it was proposed to

Michaux to accompany Captain Baudin in an expedition to New Holland. He would have preferred returning to America; but impossible as it was to undertake the voyage at his own expense, he consented to the proposal on this condition—that if, when he arrived at the Isle of France, he should find that he could employ his time in a useful manner, he should not be compelled to proceed further. He departed with captain Baudin on the 27th Ventemiaire, and arrived at the Isle of France on the 25th Ventose.

During the voyage, his companions strongly attached themselves to him; his age and character procuring him a great ascendancy over the other naturalists: and their zeal was excited by each being eager to emulate him. The vessel having touched at Teneriffe, he proceeded to botanize on the mountains, returning late every night, and always laden with seeds and plants. In the Isle of France he was delighted with the luxuriance of the vegetation; its productions appearing to him to have a more magnificent air than either those of Persia or North America. He frequently passed many days in the woods with a single negro, having no other nourishment than a little bread, sleeping under the trees, and never returning till he had made an abundant harvest. In all these excursions he carried with him seeds of plants and trees that he thought might be naturalized in the country. M. Deschamps, lately arrived from the Isle of France, has informed me that in botanizing on the mountains he found a great number of young oaks of several inches in height, which succeeded perfectly well, and which had been sown by Michaux.

One day during his absence, the door of his apartment was broken open, and a hundred pistres, together with a valuable ruby, which had been brought from Persia, carried off; dreading the loss of his time in fruitless researches, he entirely abstained from all pursuit of the robbers, and was never even heard to complain.

He accepted, with all the frankness of his character, the offers of friendship made him by Dr. Stadman, a

learned naturalist, and by M. Martin de Montcamp, whose fellow traveller he had been in the deserts of Arabia. The latter invited him to reside at his plantation, and gave him a piece of ground, and a negro to assist him. In a short time Michaux's ground was planted with the most curious productions of the island. It was necessary thus to raise them in a nursery, to send them afterwards to the Museum.

Six months had now elapsed since his landing in the Isle of France, and captain Baudin was preparing to sail for New Holland; but Michaux, who had made inquiries respecting Madagascar, felt an eager desire to visit that island. He concluded, that the number of botanists belonging to Baudin's expedition being considerable, he might make himself more useful in exploring a country not so far removed from France, whose productions are not more known to us than those of New Holland. But as he conceived that, by communicating his project, some of the persons belonging to the expedition might wish to remain with him, he kept his secret till the evening before the departure of the vessel, although in taking so little time he incurred the hazard of losing part of his effects.

He took leave of Captain Baudin, promising to furnish him at his return with a rich collection. He wrote to Paris, to the minister of the interior, to acquaint him with the motives of his stay; addressed to a member of the National Institute instructions, very minutely detailed, respecting the culture of the colony, and the means of rendering it flourishing, and at the same time wrote to his brother and son, to request the things that were necessary to the execution of his project.

M. Bory St. Vincent, with whom he had formed a strict friendship during the voyage, and who had also remained in the Isle of France, departing for the Isle of Bourbon with a design of studying its natural history, Michaux requested him to send him all the seeds and plants he could gather. M. Bory faithfully executed this commission; and on touching at the Isle of France, on his return to Eu-

rope, he found the plants which had been raised from those he had sent to Michaux, in the finest condition.

Michaux being at that time on the point of going to Madagascar, he developed to M. Bory the details of his new project. He had learnt that Madagascar is inhabited by three races of men: on the western coast the inhabitants are negroes; on the north and east they are Arabs, who arrived there about 300 years since; and, in the interior, a people considerably civilized, living under a regular government, possessing arts, and desirous of acquiring knowledge, and hospitable, although diffident of strangers. It was among the latter people that he wished to establish himself, and was persuaded he should be well received by them; he proposed to introduce among them the culture of European vegetables and fruits, and to raise in his own nurseries young plants which he meant to send to the Isle of France, where they would be preserved till occasion offered to send them to Paris.

Having established the means of correspondence with the Isle of France, he departed for Madagascar toward the end of Prairial, and landed on the eastern coast of the island, which he explored for the space of twenty leagues. Having found in the neighbourhood of Tamatada a spot favourable for establishing a garden, he began to clear it; but the inhabitants whom he employed in this labour proceeding too slowly for his ardour, he set them an example, by beginning to work at the dawn of day, and never quitting his work till after sunset.

The soil being prepared, he planted it with whatever he could gather in his excursions. His friends knowing the danger of the climate, had wished to turn him from this project; they had, above all things, recommended him to avoid too much fatigue, and not to dwell in the plains in the neighbourhood of the sea; but being persuaded that he had acquired a temperament that could resist any climate, he would never subject himself to any precautions.

His health was not affected during the first three months; but in the commencement of Frimaire, in the

year eleven, as he was preparing to depart for the interior of the island, according to his original plan, he caught the fever of the country, of which he expired on the second attack.

In a few days Michaux would have arrived in the mountains, where the air is salubrious; and as he was yet in the vigour of his age, he might for ten years or more have been the benefactor of the people, among whom he went to seek for vegetable productions proper to enrich his country. In every country which he had visited, he left friends from whom the news of his death will receive the tribute of tears, and his name will be the longer remembered, because every where he employed himself in rendering services, the evidence of which will ever exist, and be ever renewed. In all the countries from Florida to Canada, he had introduced new vegetables, plants, and trees; and the traveller cannot penetrate into Persia, Africa, or the vast continent of North America, without finding some family that will say:—"These are trees that we owe to André Michaux."

In France, the gardens of the Museum, those of M. de Cels, M. le Monnier, and several other amateurs, possess a number of plants for which they are indebted to his labours; but what is of infinitely more importance is, that he has spread generally among our nurseries a variety of foreign trees, which were known indeed, but were found only few in number, in the gardens of the curious. They are at present multiplied to a great extent, and in the soil of France, where they may succeed in the open ground, will soon form a great and new object of wealth. Of this number is a species of walnut (*Juglans Pecan* Ait.) the wood of which is extremely fine for furniture, whilst its nut produces an excellent oil, the deciduous cypress (*Cupressus disticha* L.) which succeeds so well upon inundated grounds, where other trees do not thrive, and which is employed for various purposes; a new species of Tupelo (*Nyssa caroliniana* Lamarck) very excellent for the naves of wheels; the oak (*Quercus tinctoria* Bart.) so much in request for tanning and dyeing; the green oak of Carolina

(*Quercus virens* Ait.) which grows rapidly on the sandy shores exposed to the stormy winds from the ocean, where scarcely any other tree can exist, and whose wood is excellent for the building of ships; the wax-tree of Pennsylvania, that might be used to clothe the marshy lands in the neighbourhood of Bourdeaux; ash, maples, tulip trees, &c. which in certain grounds are preferable to our native trees of the same kind, both as to their beauty and the various uses in which they may be employed: and also various plants, the objects of commerce, such as the aniseed tree and the jalap. The last of these is found in Carolina; but he also reared it in his garden, and his son afterwards brought it to the Museum, where it has been ascertained to be the same as that of Vera Cruz, which will stand the winters of the southern departments of France.

A constitution naturally robust, a state of health which had never been enfeebled, and the habit of relying on himself for the supply of all his wants, gave Michaux a great confidence in his own powers. At fifty-two years of age he was even unconscious that his physical strength must have been diminished. Still occupied with the design of his voyage to America, he had arranged the plan in all its details, the execution of which would have required ten years more of labour and fatigue. It was not till he should have explored all the countries, situated to the west of the Apalachian mountains, from Mexico to the country of the Esquimaux, and should have established communications between the United States and the various tribes dispersed in those immense regions as well as between America and Europe, that he proposed to return to France.

It would be difficult to find a traveller who would not be terrified at the mention of such an enterprise; but Michaux was accustomed to live among the Indians. He was acquainted with their various languages, and was known in the most remote districts of North America.

His son being employed by the government to send from Charlestown the trees and plants which remained in his nurseries, and afterwards to dispose of the ground, availed himself of

some months he had to spare, to visit Kentucky and Tennessee, countries of which his father had often spoken to him with enthusiasm. He penetrated 300 leagues into the countries beyond the Allegany mountains, and descended the Ohio. The habitations are widely scattered; but as soon as he named himself, the savages gave him the most friendly reception, and would go to seek people who had known his father, and who, having received from him either seed or instructions in agriculture, blessed his memory, and offered their prayers for his return.

Michaux, though of a silent turn, was of a frank temper; he made few professions of friendship; but where he could do a service to any one, he regarded no trouble. In his excursions in America having met with several Frenchmen in distress, he opened his purse to them, and procured them other assistance. Many proofs of this were found in the accounts of his expenses; but the names of those he had assisted were not mentioned. His extreme simplicity, and the love and habit of independence, which had become familiar to him in his wandering and solitary life, gave a singularity to his manners and appearance; but in this a desire of making himself noticed had no share. His manners were not those of any particular country, but equally suitable to all: appearing neither like a Frenchman, Englishman, or Canadian, wherever he went he was found more to resemble the natives than any other foreigner.

In conversation he took little share, for he neither talked or listened to any thing that was not useful. When he passed through a town, he visited the markets, to inform himself of the various parts whence the productions came. In the fields he interrogated the inhabitants respecting the details of their mode of culture. In fine, to an activity which never permitted him to lose a single moment, he united a perseverance which was never discouraged.

His moral qualities were so well known, that when he was sent to America, after his salary was fixed, he received unlimited letters of credit on the towns through which he had to pass, to furnish him with such sums

as might be necessary for the collection, he thought proper to make, and for the expenses of his travelling. His bare receipt was every where a bill of exchange, which the government engaged to honour. Michaux only made use of this power for the precise object to which it was destined, never appropriating it to pay himself any part of the arrears of his salary. Under such circumstances he could leave his son but a very small part of his paternal fortune. But this young man inherits a venerated name; knowledge acquired by his labours and travels in company with his father, and the strongest title to the countenance and protection of government.

Michaux has left few works, for being almost incessantly employed in travelling, he had little time to arrange his observations; and he thought it more useful to introduce new vegetable productions into Europe, than to describe them. We have, however, from his pen, first, a History of North American Oaks, written in French, and preceded by an introduction containing curious remarks on the oak in general. It gives the description and figures of twenty species and several varieties, arranged in a methodical order, according to the form of the leaves and the annual or biennial fructification. Nothing that concerns the cultivation of the oak is omitted, and the various parts of France in which each species may be advantageously naturalized, are carefully pointed out in it.

Secondly, a Memoir on the Date, with observations on the means of improving agriculture in the western colonies, by introducing various trees from the old continent. (See the *Journal de Physique, Floreal, an 9*).

Third, a North American Flora; published since his departure, from his notes and herbal. This Flora, written in Latin, and enriched with fifty one engravings, presents the characters of more than 1700 plants, among which there are about forty new species. What renders this work extremely precious is, the exact indication of all local circumstances. Informing the reader at what latitude, to what degree of elevation, and in what soil the various plants are found, he acquaints them not

only where they grow naturally, but also in what climate and soil they may be cultivated with success.

The administration of the Museum justly appreciating services which André Michaux has rendered to the science of natural history, and especially

to that establishment, has decreed that his bust shall be placed on the *façade* of the temperate green-house, with those of Commerson, de Dombey, and other travellers, by whom its collections have been enriched.

DETACHED ANECDOTES.

ALFRED AND CHARLEMAGNE.

THE following picture of these two great monarchs, drawn by the hand of a Frenchman, will probably be the more interesting on this account to the English reader.

In the feudal ages two great men adorned the throne, Alfred and Charlemagne.

The former of these, the wiser, and perhaps too the greater man, was contented with re-conquering the dominions of his forefathers; for he thought the charge of the smallest state sufficient to find employment for the greatest genius. He was the legislator, and in some sort the creator of his kingdom. Rome, which he had seen in his youth, and where the fine arts still exhibited some traces of grandeur, left in his mind profound and useful remembrances. He knew every thing, that was to be known in his age; yet his natural endowments far exceeded those he had acquired. Superior to all his contemporaries in the extent of his conceptions, if he did not abolish slavery, he paved the way for liberty by protecting laws. He ordained, that the accused should be judged by his equals, an act of sublime foresight, capable itself of rendering his name immortal. There are institutions, the importance of which is unperceived by the vulgar, and which great minds alone can appreciate: they appear to have but a slight, and scarcely perceptible influence, but in the course of time they produce the happiest results. Plants that attain at their birth all the beauty of which they are susceptible, often fade the day they were called into existence; but the oak, the pride of our forests, that sees many generations pass away,

while it retains the vigour of youth, rises by slow gradations. That trial by jury, which Alfred adopted, if he did not create, gave the English people notions of natural justice; habituated their minds to the discussion and examination of their dearest concerns; and rendered them in the end capable of extorting from John that great charter, which may be considered as the foundation stone of their constitution, and the certain, though remote cause of their insurrections against tyranny, of those laws that stamp legitimacy on their pride, and have procured them two centuries of energy and glory.

The career of Charlemagne was more brilliant. The extent of his conquests, the constant success of his arms, the grandeur of his projects, crown his name not only with dazzling illusions, but with solid lustre. He was great, when he consulted the will of the public in the Champ de Mars: but he thought not of creating a people, or durst not make the attempt. He rendered sacred the feudal system by the most imposing actions: and after his death, the nobles and the clergy, whom his genius alone could restrain, became the scourges of the nation, and the tyrants of his weak successors. Few men however rise completely above the age in which they live: modern history abounds with heroes; but it exhibits few of those bold reformers, who bear down every obstacle to the happiness of mankind, and by the rapidity of their progress, and strength of their genius, outstrip the slow and timid course of reason in the mass of the people.

DEBASING EFFECTS OF THE PRESENT SYSTEM OF GAOLS ON THEIR INMATES.

A number of convicts under sen-

tence of transportation for Botany Bay, in passing through the town of Lisburn lately, were in a state of complete intoxication. Such an instance of thoughtless profligacy, and apparent incorrigibility, demonstrates the errors of the present system of prison discipline, when so indecent an exhibition publicly through a country would be permitted. It affords no salutary warning to deter other offenders, but exhibits to open view the system of depravity in gaols. Unless the Philadelphia prison, and other similar institutions gave ample proofs of the possibility of reforming some very hardened criminals by a system of regularity, and hard labour, with a due mixture of wholesome severity tempered with mercy, in which hope is held out as a powerful stimulant to reform, and to procure amendment in the prisoners, we might almost despair of effecting any radical reform, and put up with the present system, which without a just adaptation of means to an end, like a bungling quack, attempts to cure all diseases by the one remedy, and awards death as the punishment for crimes of very different magnitude and degrees of culpability. For want of timely prevention, and an enlightened mode of correction.

"Society grown weary of the load,
Shakes her incumbent's lap, and casts
them out."

But happily, and to the honour of human nature, facts which afford the strongest arguments, demonstrate the practicability of reforming through the means of an effective system of improved discipline in prisons. K.

DANGER OF INSPIRING CHILDREN WITH NOTIONS OF CRUELTY, AND A FONDNESS FOR MILITARY PURSUITS.

Volney in his lectures on history, relates that in the year 1795, in crossing France from Nice to Paris, he had frequently observed the children hanging cats on lamp-posts, and guillotining poultry in imitation of the revolutionary tribunals. He justly remarks, "if the present generation, educated in gentle manners, and which in infancy knew no other toys than dolls and paper castles, has in so short a time taken a direction to sanguinary manners, what may be expect-

ed from that, which is rising up in the midst of rapine, and carnage, and which makes horrors the sports of youth." We appear in these countries to be rapidly following the example of France in assuming a tone of military manners. Drums and swords have become the play-things of children, and in some schools military exercise forms a regular part of the employment of play hours. The return of Europe to the ferocious manners of the Cimbri and Teutones is greatly to be dreaded. At least the minds of youth should be guarded against the infection. Alexander is said to have become a warrior by reading Homer's Iliad, and admiring the character of Achilles. The history of Alexander, written by Quintus Curtius was a principal cause of contributing to the military mania of Charles XII. and the wars, which in consequence so long desolated Europe. It would be of signal service to instil into youth a disrelish of military heroism

"From Macedonia's madman to the Swede."

of the latter Johnson remarks,

"He left the name, at which the world grew pale

To point a moral, or adorn a tale." K.

THE CRUELTY OF THE MISREPRESENTATIONS OF BIGOTRY INCONSISTENT WITH TRUE RELIGION.

As Boerhaave, then a young man, was travelling in a trackschute in Holland, a conversation arose on the doctrines of Spinoza. Boerhaave silently attended to the discourse, till one of the company desirous to manifest his zeal, instead of confuting the positions of Spinoza, by argument, gave way to contumelious language, and virulent invective. Boerhaave was so little pleased with this manner, that he quietly asked him, "whether he had ever read the author, against whom he declaimed?" The orator not being able to answer, was checked and confounded. In a few days afterwards it was reported at Leyden that Boerhaave had revolted to Spinoza, and was an Atheist, and the report was generally credited, notwithstanding he had previously written against that doctrine. Thus the malice of some, and the indiscreet zeal of others,

often hurry them to misrepresent those who think differently from them. In no case is fiery zeal more displayed than on the subject of religion, and the principle which ought to moderate human passions, by its misapplication not unfrequently in-

flames them to the greatest excess. Such a course may be generally expected, so long as religion is placed in belief, and external observances, and not in the due regulation of the heart and temper. K.

ORIGINAL POETRY.

THE FUNERAL OF ISABELLA.

By a young Lady.

WHILE sad and solemn sorrow breathes
around,
While bath'd in tears her sad companions mourn,
Mark, as she slowly treads the sainted ground,
A mother's grief o'er Isabella's urn.

"Too late I came," the hapless mourner cries,

"Another breast receiv'd her last dear sigh!"—

What checks each plaint, each murmur as they rise?—

An angel's voice, which breathes this soft reply.

"The host of heaven approve with foud delight,

When virtuous age th' immortal crown receives,

But Oh! with dearer joy they bless the sight

When youth resigned each earthly pleasure leaves.

When youth, when health, when new half-tasted joys,

Hope's spirit gay, and beauty's opening bloom,

Are offer'd all, a willing sacrifice

To him who calls them to an early tomb.

How small the change thus cropt a beautiful flower,

To mould it to ethereal texture bright!

Think ere this moment, touch'd by heavenly power,

She moves a seraph in the realms of light.

A sweeter grace her features soft assume,
To her fair form resplendent wings are given,

Divine glories all her looks illumine,

And she who charmed on earth now smiles in heaven!"

SATURDAY NIGHT.

THE tailor plies his needle fast
Shoe-makers also use their last,
For all is hurry, all is haste,

On Saturday night.

The labourer receives his hire,
And gratifies his high desire
Of guzzling beer by alehouse fire

On Saturday night.

And oh! how grievous and provoking,
To mend the holes of many a stocking,
While her tired foot the cradle's rocking,

On Saturday night.

See the young boy impatient itches,
T' adorn himself with his new breeches,
"It wants good sir, but twenty stitches

This Saturday night.

Young miss has called once, twice or thrice,

She wants her Spanish pumps so nice,

"They shall be done miss in a trice,
This Saturday night.

See posts or hosts where'er he turns
Distract the tradesman's mind which burns,
And oh his wife she intly mourns

On Saturday night.

For she has ladie's shoes to bind,
And she has a cross child to mind,
For cares and business are combined,

On Saturday night.

Then let us leave this trading world,
Which in confusion still is hurld,
Pains and griefs are all unfurl'd

On Saturday night.

The lady combs her auburn hair,
No toils and troubles does she share,
But for the morrow does prepare

On Saturday night.

But ah she fears some other belle,
Shall all her ornaments excel,
And to her mind such thoughts are hell.

On Saturday night.

The servant maid whose only dower,
Is fame of how that she can scour,
Exerts her skill with all her power

On Saturday night.

The merchant now retires from strife,
 Into the presence of his wife,
 And hopes to enjoy a quiet life
 On Saturday night.

But children roar with all their might,
 For this you know is washing night,
 And they must kick and twist and fight
 On Saturday night.

But sweet is our sleep of a Saturday night,
 When all nature so tired is at rest,
 And sweeter the beams of the morning
 light,
 When cessation from labour's contest.

E.

ADDRESS TO GLUTTONS.

Cheer up gluttons, fill your bellies,
 Gormandize whole pounds of meat,
 Never fiddle o'er your jellies,
 But substantial viands eat.

Every waistcoat quick unbutton,
 See the enemies advance,
 Charge the turtle, beef and mutton,
 Point the culinary lance.

Bravoish, boys, your knives and forks all,
 As you would in war the spear,
 Bloat your paunches like a foot ball,
 Eat and grease from ear to ear.

Still let us abhor the motto
 "*Pauca vesco*"—damping words;
 But good roast beef, piping hot oh!
 Spread in plenty o'er your boards.

See the surloin richly smooking,
 Mark the gravy how it springs,
 Malcontents forbear your croaking,
 Feast like aldermen or kings.

From the store-house brisk and mellow,
 Quick, the port, and claret bring;
 Through our spacious hall we'll bellow,
 "Here's a health to George our king."

Whilst we're gorging without measure,
 Hear our greasy chairman cry,
 "Eating is *sullimest pleasure*,
 "While we eat, we'll never die."

TO A FRIEND WHO PRESENTED HER WITH
 MOORE'S IRISH MELODIES;
 By a young Lady.

TO you who taught my heart to know
 The lyric charms that brightly glow,
 And save my country's rescued lay
 From dark oblivion's Gothic away;
 My grateful thanks in feeble song,
 Though weak the strain I'd fain prolong;
 How swelled my soul with rapture new,
 As memory then recalled to view
 The Bards that in illustrious line
 Have waken'd Erin's harp divine!
 I saw them rise in awful state
 Her joys, her woes to celebrate,
 They looked, they moved to fancy's eye
 In sweetest pomp of Minstrelsy,
 And best those days when erst the bard

Was honour's tutor, virtue's guard;
 When his applause, with rapture fraught,
 Bright virgins, monarchs, heroes sought,
 Yet though his voice no longer calls
 Through Tara's or Kinkera's halls,
 Yet, tho' he cease through Erin's vales,
 Soft breathing, gently mournful tales,
 His sweet romantic themes to pour,
 Of loves, of glories now no more,
 May not her bards, her ancient pride,
 Now viewless o'er her fate preside?
 Those souls that music's springs could
 move,

Now tuned to harmony above,
 May mark her their peculiar care,
 And build their joys their sorrows there;
 And as in azure vapours lost
 Sublime they hover o'er her coast,
 May oft avert the threatening blow,
 That frowns to lay her beauties low;
 Or when their guardian efforts fail
 Their soft harps resting on the gale
 In strains of more than mortal sound,
 May shed a holy calm around,
 May bid her bleeding sorrows cease,
 And soothe her murmur'ing sons to peace.
 'Tis then that oft their pitying tear,
 Falls trembling thro' her humid sphere,
 In pearly drops below is seen,
 And decks her vales with brighter green.
 Such fancy's visions, when I view
 The bards that once my country knew;
 And chief of all thy tuneful train,
 O born the prince of song to reign,
 Then Carolan whose mortal sight
 Was but obscured, that stronger light
 Centered in thy glowing soul,
 Might thence blaze forth without controul,
 Who from thy harp exhaustless drew
 Conceptions ravishing as new.
 There as some proud enchanter's wand
 By turns each spirit can command,
 And raise at every magic sweep,
 Entranced delight, or anguish deep.
 'Tis sweet those native strains to hear,
 But sweeter to the raptured ear,
 When poetry her aid unites,
 And adds to music's soft delights,
 When Moore his patriot genius burns,
 To pour the verse where feeling turns
 Whose numbers with impassioned course
 To music's powers an added force
 With sympathy respondent gives,
 Till every note expressive lives.
 Whate'er the theme, or sad or gay,
 He follows the melodious lay,
 And Erin's harp no more repress
 Shines forth in modern beauties drest.
 Sweet music, sweeter poetry,
 Twin sisters, ever thus agree,
 United, fairer each appears,
 And each the other's beauties shares.
 Then if a dearer joy be mine,
 Than thus to see your charms combine,
 'Tis that those powers united smile
 To celebrate my native Isle.

REVIEW OF NEW PUBLICATIONS.

Epistles on Women, exemplifying their character and condition, in various ages and nations: with miscellaneous poems, by Lucy Aikin. London, printed for J. Johnson and Co. St. Paul's church yard, 1810, p.p. 142, price 12s. English.

THE question respecting the equality of the sexes has been often debated, but a great diversity of opinion still prevails on this subject. Some contend that literary pursuits, by cultivating and improving the mind, renders a female unfit for the occupations of domestic life. A little knowledge may certainly have a dangerous effect, but the more real knowledge we possess the more fully we feel our deficiency, and how much is yet to be learned.

"A little learning is a dangerous thing;
Drink deep, or taste not the Pierian spring:
There shallow draughts intoxicate the brain,
And drinking largely sobers us again."

It is not good policy to wish the female sex to remain in ignorance, as we always find an ignorant person the most untractable. A judicious education and habits of study have a tendency to strengthen the faculties of the mind, and to promote the advancement in the scale of rational existence. Miss Aikin in the preface very justly remarks: "Nothing could, in my opinion, be more foolish than the attempt to engage our sex in a struggle for stations, that they are physically unable properly to fill; for power of which they must always want the means to possess themselves. No! instead of aspiring to be inferior men, let us content ourselves with becoming noble women:—let not sex be carried into every thing. Let the impartial voice of history testify for us, that, when permitted, we have been the worthy associates of the best efforts of the best of men; let the daily observation of mankind bear witness, that no talent, no virtue is masculine alone; no fault or folly exclusively feminine: that there is no endowment, no propensity, or mental quality of any kind, which may not be derived from her father to the daughter, to the son from his

mother. These positions once established, and carried into their consequences, will do every thing for woman. Perceiving that any shaft aimed at her, must strike in its recoil upon some vulnerable part of common human nature, the Juvenals and Popes of future ages will abstain from making her the butt of scorn or malice. Feeling with gratitude of what her heart and mind are capable, the scholars, the sages, and the patriots of coming days will treat her as a sister and a friend.

"The politic father will not then leave as a "legacy" to his daughters the injunction to conceal their wit, their learning, and even their good sense, in deference to the "*natural malignity*" with which most men regard every woman of a sound understanding and cultivated mind; nor will even the reputation of our great Milton himself secure him from the charge of a blasphemous presumption in making his Eve address to Adam, the acknowledgment, "God is thy head, thou mine;" and in the assertion that the first human pair were formed, "He for God only, she for God in him."

"To mark the effect of various codes, institutions, and states of manners, on the virtue and happiness of man, and the concomitant and proportional elevation or depression of woman in the scale of existence, is the general plan of this work. I make no specific claims for my sex. Convinced that it is rather to the policy, or the generosity, of man, than to his justice that we ought to appeal, I have simply endeavoured to point out, that between the two partners of human life, not only the strongest family likeness, but the most complete identity of interest subsists: so that it is impossible for man to degrade his companion without degrading himself, or to elevate her without receiving a proportional accession of dignity and happiness. This is the chief "*moral of my song*;" and on this point all my examples are brought to bear. I regard it as

the great truth to the support of which my pen has devoted itself; and whoever shall rise from the perusal of these epistles deeply impressed with its importance, will afford me the success dearest to my heart,—the hope of having served, in some small degree, the best interests of the human race."

The poem begins by describing a woman, in whose estimation, from want of literary culture, the season of youth forms the most delightful part of life; who never thinks of the durable advantage of a cultivated mind, and who dreads the approach of age which must with her be joyless and dreary.

"Ising the fate of woman:—Man to man
Adds praise, and glory lights his mortal span,
Creation's lord, he shines from youth to age;
The blooming warrior or the bearded sage;
But she, frail offspring of an April morn,
Poor helpless passenger from love to scorn,
While dimpled youth her sprightly cheek adorns
Bleoms a sweet rose, a rose amid the thorns;
A few short hours, with faded charms to earth
She sinks, and leaves no vestige of her birth.
Even while the youth, in love and rapture warm,
Sighs as he hangs upon her beauteous form,
Careless and cold he views the beauteous mind,
For virtue, bliss, eternity designed.

"Bahish my fair, he cries," those studious looks;
"Oh! what should beauty learn from crabbed books;
"Sweetly to speak and sweetly smile be thine;
"Beware, nor change that dimple to a line!"
Well pleased she hears, vain triumph lights her eyes;
Well pleased, in prattle and in smiles complies;
But eyes, alas! grow dim, and roses fade,
And man condemns the trifler he has made.
The glass reversed by magic power of spleen,
A wrinkled idiot now the fair is seen;
Then with the sex his headlong rage must cope,
And stab with Juvenal or sting with Pope.
Be mine, while Truth with calm and artless grace
Lifts her clear mirror to the female face,
With steadier hand the pencil's task to guide,
And win a blush from Man's relenting pride."

Adam is introduced as a "joyless, hopeless, indolent creature," until he meets Eve. This event produces a change in both.

"See where the world's new master roams along,
Vainly intelligent and idly strong;
Mark his long, listless step and torpid air,
His brow of densest gloom and fixed infantile stare,
Whose sullen lips no mother's lips have prest,
Nor drawn, sweet labour! at her kindly breast;
No mother's voice has touched that slumbering ear,
Nor glistening eye beguiled him of a tear;
Love nursed not him with sweet endearing wiles,
Nor woman taught the sympathy of smiles;
Vacant and sad his rayless glances roll;
Nor joy nor hope illumines his darkling soul;
Ah! hapless world that such a wretch obeys!
Ah! joyless Adam, though a world he sways.
But see!—they meet!—they gaze, the new born pair;
Mark now the wakening youth, the wondering fair:
Sure a new world that moping idiot warms,
Dilates his stature, and his mien informs!
A brighter crimson tints his glowing cheek;
His broad eye kindles, and his glances speak.
So roll the clouds from some vast mountain's head,
Meit into mist, and down the valleys spread;
His crags and caves the burning sunbeams light,
And burn and blaze upon his topmost height;

Broad in full day he lifts his towering crest,
And fire celestial sparkles from his breast.
Eve too, how changed! no more with baby grace
The smile runs dimpling o'er her trackless face,
As painted meads invite her roving glance,
Or birds with liquid thrill her ear entrance:
With down cast look she stands, abashed and meek,
Now pale, now rose red, her varying cheek;
Now first her fluttering bosom heaves a sigh,
Now first a tear, stands trembling in her eye;
For hark! the youth, as love and nature teach,
Breathes his full bosom, and breaks forth in speech:
His quivering lips the winged accents part,
And pierce, how swift! to Eve's unguarded heart.
Now rose complete the mighty Maker's plan,
And Eden opened in the heart of man;
Kindled by Hope, by gentle love refined,
Sweet converse cheered him, and a kindred mind;
Nor deemed that He, beneficent and just,
In woman's hand who lodged this sacred trust,
For man alone her conscious soul informed;
For man alone her tenderer bosom warmed!
Denied to her the cup of joy to sip,
But bade her raise it to his greedy lip,
Poor instrument of bliss, and tool of ease,
Born but to serve, existing but to please:—
No;—hand in hand the happy creatures trod,
Alike the children of no partial God."

A sketch is then given of savage life, and of the oppression and subjection of the female sex by barbarians. In invoking her friend, to whom the poem is addressed, to follow her to view the savage world, Miss Atkin makes some very excellent remarks.

"Fierce on thy view the savage world shall glare,
Aid all the ills of wretched woman there;
Unknown to her fond love's romantic glow,
The graceful throbs of sentimental woe,
The play of passions and the feelings' strife
That weave the web of finely-checked life.
But thou posscest, unspooled by tyrant art,
Of the large empire of a generous heart,
Thou wilt not scorn plain nature's rudest strain,
Nor homely misery claim thy sighs in vain.
Come then, my friend; my devious way pursue;
Pierce every clime, and search all ages through,
Stretch wide and wider yet thy liberal mind,
And grasp the sisterhood of womankind:
With mingling angel mark, and conscious pride,
The sex by whom exalted or decried;
Crushed by the savage, fettered by the slave,
But served, but honoured, by the good and brave."

The admiration of sentimentality, and the sarcasms of those who are afraid of the approach to rationality in the female sex, have tended to increase the frivolity so common among the uneducated. Some may think that females have no higher destination to attain. Triflers may please for a time by the graces of youth, but when age comes they will regret that the time spent in irrational pursuits was not employed in acquiring solid improvement. These triflers, as well as the mere domestic drudges whose views never rise to just ideas of intellectual excellence, are well depicted by this writer:

"(1) Rapid summary of a slavish lot!
They sew, they spin, they die and are forgot."

Those who cultivate their minds, and

lay in a store of useful knowledge, will never feel ennui. It is education alone which makes the difference in intellectual capacity between the sexes; if women always had the advantages of a liberal education, and were not afraid to avow their acquirements lest they should be ridiculed by the thoughtless, they would be fully equal to the other sex in every valuable and useful attainment. The difference in the manner of educating the sexes, commences in infancy, and occasions much of the diversity of character, exemplified in their pursuits through life. The boy frequently is forced to apply to his tasks, and to acquire habits of study, while the education of the girl is neglected either through the ignorance or mistaken notions of the parents. Trifling accomplishments are taught, at large boarding-schools, or by a fashionable governess, and the attention of the female is solely turned to seek to please at the expense of neglecting the most important parts of education. Education thus mis-directed has a tendency to make women mere pleasing toys for the passing hour, and music, drawing, and dancing, are made the chief objects of study. With boys they are only secondary objects, but with some women every thing. Hence we may see the difference between the sexes thus instructed. Where women have been well educated, they have shown no inferiority of intellect, and instances of many women breaking through all the obstructions to improvement, and vindicating the dignity of their sex are frequent. In the energetic language of this able vindicator of women.

"Souls have no sex; sublimed by virtue's lore
Alike they scorn the earth, and try to soar;
Buoyant alike on daring wing they rise,
As emulation nerves them for the skies."

A view is taken of Athens, of ancient Rome; of the christian religion, and of its abuse in the rise of superstition and monastic institutions; and of the various modifications thus imposed on the female character; she then continues:

"Still as I gaze what mingled throngs appear!
What varying accents rush upon my ear!
Stern, awful, chaste, in savage freedom bred,
Here, German matrons shout o'er Varus dead!
There, languid beauties, 'mid a harem's gloom,
In jealous bickerings pline away their bloom;
Here, well dissembling with a decent pride,
The victim-widow laves in Gange's tide,
Clasps the loathed corpse, invites the dreaded flame,
And dies in anguish, not to live with shame."

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I turn, and meet the animated glance
Shot by the dames of gay seductive France;
Then melting, catch the gaze, so fond, so mild,
Some English mother bends upon her child.
A thought, a look, a line, the meanest ask,
'To swell my growing tale, and lengthen out my task."

A survey is taken of the Turkish harem, the imbecile character of the women, and the haughty, yet contemptible manners of the men; she justly remarks,

"Man, stamp the moral on thy haughty mind,
Degrade the sex, and thou degrad'st the kind."

In speaking of ancient Germany, she finely contrasts the manners of those countries where the women are considered as mere slaves, and the Germans who generously treat their wives and daughters as their companions and friends:

"Mark the bold contrast! hail, my friend, with
The generous son of German liberty: [mc,
Barbarian! yes: 'To spread the winged sail
Of venturous Commerce to the speeding gale,
To urge his ploughshare o'er the conquered soil,
And earn from culture's hand the meed of toil,
As yet he knew not; must amid alarms,
His care was freedom, his rude trade was arms:
But this he knew; to woman's feeling heart
Its best, its dearest tribute to impart;
Not the cheap falsehoods of a flattering strain,
Nor idle gauds, vain incense to the vain;
But such high fellowship, such honoured life
As throws a glory round the exulting wife,
Seats her revered, sublime, on Virtue's throne,
Judge of his honour, guardian of her own.
Dear was to him the birth-right of the free;
More welcome death than her captivity!
And hence his valour's rude but vigorous stroke
Stunned Rome, and snapped her vainly fitted yoke."

Chivalry is personified; his courage, his devotion to the ladies, his romantic love, "Love's gallant martyr, honour's generous child;" the lady is described as endowed with all virtues and graces, but found to be an imaginary being.

"But say, this paragon, this matchless fair,
Trod she this care-crazed earth? No—born of air;
A flitting dream, a rainbow of the mind,—
The tempting glory leaves my grasp behind;
Formed for no rugged clime, no barbarous age,
She blooms in fairy land the grace of Spenser's page."

Gallantry, the parasite and destroyer of the female sex, is then characterized:

"New to the discipline of good and ill,
Unformed of manners, impotent of will,
What thirst of empire seized the giddy train!
Man bowed obsequious, and deferred the rein;
(So Mars on Venus smiled in courts above,
So crouched in all the loyalty of love.)
Ah! feigned humility to scorn allied,
That stoops to conquer, flatters to deride!
Learn, thoughtless woman, learn his arts to scan,
And dread that fearful power it—*Kæeping man*.
Dread the gay form whom now, her favourite birth,
Some smiling mischief thrusts upon the earth
Veiled in a scented cloud;—t' incites, and see
Come dancing forth the phantom Gallantry.
His are the slowly bow, the adoring air,
The attentive eye that dwells upon the fair;
His the soft tone to grace a tender tale,
And his the flattering signs that more prevail;
His the whole art of love;—but all is art,
For kindly Nature never warmed his heart;
No hardy knight with wrong-redeeming brand

He roams on Honour's pilgrim-age the land;
No awful champion vowed to Virtue's aid;
He flings his buckler o'er the trembling maid;
No high enthusiast to his peerless love
He plights pure vows, and registered above;
Canker of Innocence! he lives at ease,
His only care his wanton soul to please;
Hymen's dear tie, for him a sordid league
Kitt by ambition, avarice, or intrigue,
He scorns, he tramples, and insulting bears
To other shrines his incense, and his prayers;
There, skilled in perfidy, he hangs to view
A hundred suppler passions never knew
Liveries that love by telegraph convey,
Lines traced in blood, and quaint æsthetic lay—
Poor trifles all;—but trifles poor as these
Cheat the cold heart, the vagrant fancy seize,
From sober love, from faithful duty wren,
And sell to fear and sin the fancied Queen."

The attention is then turned to Switzerland, which is described as still virtuous though oppressed by France; and the important maxim is inculcated that without pure morals there can be no true public spirit, or patriotism, in the proper sense of the word.

"Pure was the heart of Switzerland, when Tell Aimed the avenging shaft, and cried 'Rebel!'
Pure was the self-devoted blood that dyed
The mangled breast of her bold Winkelreid;
Pure were the mountain-homs whence foaming out
The patriot-torrent rushed, and gave the rout,
Where rose the pile of bones to tell mankind
"This monument the spoiler left behind."
Nor virtue yet had fled her rock-built bowery
When Gaul's intruding demon drunk with power,
Burst on that paradise: appalled he found
A Spartan fortitude embattled round.
Rapt by a fine despair, the maid, the wife,
Charged by their heroes' side and fired the strife—
The strife victorious;—but oppressed, betrayed,
Tell the brave patriot few, no friend to aid.
Then spotless victims of a doom severe,
They died upon their murdered country's bier.
Died not in vain;—to stamp on that proud name
The weight of vengeance and the curse of shame.
Plant thy bright eagles o'er each prostrate realm,
Audacious France! and headlong from his helm
Each doming steersman dash;—but hope not thou,
Amid the plundered baubles of thy brow,
To twine a wreath from Freedom's sacred tree;
It blooms with Virtue, but it dies with thee."

In mentioning the French Revolution, Miss Aikin pays a just tribute to Madame Roland, whose excellent understanding directed to noble purposes, rendered her an ornament to the female sex. After this long flight through distant kingdoms, we are brought back to England.

"To hearth domestic and the sheltering bower,"
where

"Our timorous mothers, from invading strife,
Wrapt in a meek monotony of life,
Humbly content to pace with dutious round,
Their little world, the dear domestic ground.
Warus of protecting man, nor dared to claim,
Nor dared to wish, the dangerous meed of fame,
Till, snatched in triumph from his ancient tomb,
The lamp of learning blazed upon the gloom,
And wide around to kindling hope revealed
The bloodless contest of a nobler field,
And courteous Wisdom to the bashful throng
Waved his pure hand, and beckoned them along."

We now arrive at the period when female education was a little attended

to, and a deserved compliment is paid to Sir Thomas More for his care in instructing his daughters. His daughter Margaret wrote with elegance, both in English and Latin; in the latter language her style was so pure that many could scarcely believe her compositions were the work of a female. A tribute is paid to the memory of Lady Jane Grey, Lady Russell, and Mrs. Hutchinson, the widow and historian of her patriotic and amiable husband, Colonel Hutchinson; she is thus elegantly apostrophized.

"But thou pure partner of man's noble cause,
Take generous Hutchinson, this heart's applause;
'Twas thine to stem a foul and angry tide,
A high-soul'd helpmate at the patriot's side;
Then cast sad relict! on an angry shore,
All wreck'd, all lost, the gallant struggle o'er,
Yet, greatly constant to a husband's trust,
True to the joyful memory of the just,
Chide back thy tears, omit thy mourning head,
And live the high historian of the dead;
Knock at thy children's breasts, and cry with pride,
Thus lived our patriot, thus our martyr died!"

Queen Elizabeth is described in rather too flattering terms. She was a great Queen, but she was not an amiable character. The greatness of her mind on many occasions, could not exempt her from the despicable rivalry of beauty and the desire of admiration, which she suffered to display themselves on many occasions, particularly in her conduct towards Mary Queen of Scots. She was insincere, and vain of her literary talents; yet there are many allowances to be made for her when we consider that she was perpetually assailed by servile homage on the throne, and it requires more than common strength of mind to remain uninjured by the combination of flattery and power. The truth, especially disagreeable truth, could seldom reach her ears. She had, however, great talents for governing, she possessed courage and activity, and she patronized men of talents, she

"Flashed on Spencer's dawning sight
Long meteor-streams and trails of fairy light;
Twinkled on Shakespear's lowly hat, and shed
A smile of love on Bacon's boyish head."

Englishmen are exhorted in the following energetic manner to promote the mental improvement of females, and to treat them as friends, not as inferiors.

"Sons of fair Albion, tender, brave, sincere,
(Be this the strain; an earnest suppliant hear!)
Feel that when Heaven, evolved its perfect plan,
Crowded with its last, best gifts transported man,
It formed no creature of ignoble strain,
Of heart unteachable, obtuse of brain;
(Such had not filled the solitary void,

Nor such his soul's new sympathies employed)
 But one all eloquent of eye, of mien!
 Intensely human; exquisitely keen
 To see, to know: Be generous then, unbend
 Your barbarous shackles, loose the female mind;
 Aid its new flights; instruct its purring wing,
 And guide its talent to Wisdom's purest spring:
 Hoarse as generous, with fraternal heart
 Scorn the dark satirist's unmanly part;
 Scorn too the flatterer's, in the medium wise,
 Nor feed those follies that yourselves despise.
 For you, bright daughters of a land renowned,
 By genius blest, by glorious Freedom crowned;
 Safe in a pointed privacy, content
 To grace, not shun, the lot that Nature lent,
 Be yours the joys of hope, affection's charms,
 And infants clinging with caressing arms:
 Yours too the boon, of Taste's whole garden free,
 To pluck at will her bright Hesperian tree,
 Uncheckt the wreath of each fair muse's jasmine,
 And fill your lap with amaranthine bloom.
 Press eager on; of this great art possess,
 To seize the good, to follow still the best;
 My the pale lamp, explore the breathing page,
 And catch the soul of each immortal age.
 Strikes the pure bard his old romantic lyre?
 Let high Belphebe warm, let Amoret sweet inspire.
 Does history speak? drink in her loftiest tone,
 And be Cæsar's virtues all your own.
 Thus self-endowed, thus armed for every race,
 Improve, excel, surmount, subdue your fate!
 To shall at length enlightened man efface
 That starchy stigma reared on half the race,
 His rude forefathers' shame; and pleased confess,
 'Tis yours to elevate, 'tis yours to bless;
 Your interest one with his; your hopes the same; }
 Fair peace in life, in death undying fame,
 And gifts in worlds beyond the species' general aim. }
 "Rise," shall he cry, "O Woman, rise! be free!
 My life's associate, now partake with me:
 Rouse thy keen energies, expand thy soul,
 And see, and feel, and comprehend the whole;
 My deepest thoughts, intelligent, divide;
 When right confirm me, and when erring guide;
 Both all my cares, in all my virtues blend;
 And be my sister, be at length my friend."

The poems are dedicated to her sister.

in law Mrs. Charles Rochemont Aikin, daughter of the late Gilbert Wakefield, that undaunted martyr in the cause of liberty, whose care in the education of his daughter is thus elegantly and feelingly described, in the concluding lines of the poem.

"Anna, farewell! O spirit richly fraught
 With all that feeds the noble growth of thought!
 (For not the Roman, nor the attic store,
 Nor poet's song, nor reverend sages' lore,
 'To thee' a Wakefield's liberal love denied,
 His child and friend, his pupil and his pride,)
 Whose life of female loveliness shall teach
 The finest charm that precept fails to reach;—
 Born to delight, instructed to excel,
 My judge, my sister, take this heart's farewell!"

We highly recommend this book to the perusal of our readers, confident that they cannot read it without having a more exalted idea of the female sex, and on this account we have made long extracts of the miscellaneous poems, which compose the remainder of the volume; "the Ode to Cambria," excels in fine painting, and the lines "to the memory of the late Rev. Gilbert Wakefield," in true sensibility and feeling. The whole of the poems have the characteristic of genuine poetry, "thoughts that breathe, and words that burn," and are unlike those ephemeral poems which leave little impression on the memory after the book is closed.

FOREIGN LITERATURE.

Extract of a Letter from Dr. Lewis Frank,* First Physician to the Bashaw of Jannina, to a gentleman at Paris.

Jannina, May 15th, 1806.

THE interest you have always felt in every thing that concerns me, leads me to presume, that you will be

* Dr. Frank was in Egypt, practising as a physician, when the French invaded that country. He then entered into the French service, and returned to France with the last division of the French troops. During his stay at Paris, he published in the *Moniteur* several interesting pieces respecting Egypt, and wrote a short pamphlet on the trade of the Negroes to Cairo. After having had the superintendence of several hospitals in

glad to hear some news of me, as well as of the country where I live. A chain of circumstances, which it is unnecessary to particularize, prevented my writing sooner. Though I cannot say I find every thing as I could wish in this country, I have every reason to be satisfied with the bashaw. He is a man of considerable talents, and of unparalleled affability. He has a particular predilection for the French nation; and no man so highly values the great qualities of the hero by whom the

what was formerly Piedmont, he went to Jannina, under the character of first physician to the Bashaw, on the recommendation of his relation, the celebrated Dr. Frank, then of Vienna, but now of Wilna, whose pupil he had been.

vast empire of the French is governed. Far from being obliged to appear at his court in the Oriental dress, he likes to see me in my French physician's uniform, which I wear every day with the same freedom, as if I were in France. On setting out from Corfu for Jannina, you may go by the way of Prevesa, land at Salagora, and thence proceed to Arta; or cross the arm of the sea, and land at Santi Quaranta. As the passage across the gulf of Salagora is much longer, I preferred that by St. Quaranta. From Arta, which is four leagues from Salagora, the distance to Jannina is ten leagues; while from St. Quaranta it is four and twenty, which requires three days journey. What at present bears the name of St. Quaranta consists of two houses inhabited by officers of the customs. At some distance are seen the remaining ruins of the old city of that name, but they exhibit nothing worthy of notice. Not being able to find a sufficient number of horses for the conveyance of my family and baggage, I was obliged to spend the night at St. Quaranta. The next day I proceeded to Delvins, which is four leagues distant. This city, though it cannot be called large, occupies a great extent of ground, the houses standing a hundred, or a hundred and fifty paces from one another. On a tolerably high hill there is a little fort, which might make a vigorous defence on occasion, if it were well provided with guns.

The night following I slept at Delvinakio, a large village in a pleasant situation. I had good reason to thank divine Providence for my having accomplished this part of my journey without accident; as, if I had not had a surefooted horse, I must have been killed a hundred times over;* for half the time we travelled on the sides of precipices, filling us with horror, and capable of intimidating the most intrepid traveller.

* This bull, made by a German, I am inclined to place to the account of the French language; which, much as it has been praised, by those who understand it, and by those who do not, for its precision, appears to me to be the native language of bulls, as well as of *Hypoc-*

The third day, after travelling twelve leagues more in terrible roads, I arrived at Jannina; much regretting that I had not gone by the way of Prevesa, Salagora, and Arta, particularly as it is very difficult to get any thing to eat in this part of Albania.

The city of Jannina does not stand in a spacious plain, as many geographical writers say; but in a large vale, and on the border of a fine lake. Part of the city is built on the side of a hill. The principal street, which runs through it from one end to the other, is tolerably handsome. On a neck of land running out into the lake, which might be called a peninsula, is erected the castle, in which the bashaw resides. It is on the highest part of the neck of land, and in great measure surrounded by rocky precipices. Before the time of the present bashaw it was a shapeless mass of old houses, which have been pulled down one after another, to make room for the present buildings. It has not the regular appearance admired in France, but it is pleasing enough to the eye.

The palace of the bashaw, as well as many other houses of private persons built on this peninsula, is surrounded by a strong wall, on which cannons are planted. Opposite the castle, in the middle of the lake, is an island, on which have been built several convents, and a village, the inhabitants of which employ themselves occasionally in cutting wood, and at other times in fishing. The lake abounds with fish, but four or five kinds only are brought to market. A great many fine craw fish are caught in it, and frogs of a prodigious size; but these the Greeks have in

bole. In fact I have long observed, that you can scarcely take up a French writer without stumbling on bulls more or less frequently; and this even on scientific subjects, where you would expect to meet with the most precise ideas, and consequently language free from this defect. I cannot therefore but ascribe it to the genius of the French nation; that genius which makes a mountain of every mole-hill, and an ocean of a bucket of water. *Anglicus.*

such abhorrence, that it is difficult to procure them.

Jannina is not a very ancient city, but was probably begun in the time of the lower empire. One Joanni is said to have been the founder, and to have begun with fortifying one of the points of the peninsula, where traces of the ancient castle are still to be seen.

I must now say something of the character of the inhabitants of this country. Jannina is in that part of the ancient Epirus, which was called the country of the Molossi; but the modern people have nothing in common with the ancient. Their character has been modelled in succession by the Romans, the Spaniards, the Normans, and the Turks; and which is still worse, by a religion mingled with various superstitions.—The Greeks of this country are ignorant, trifling, fickle, and often treacherous. Men of any knowledge or probity are scarcely to be met with, except in the cities; and these are more inclined to trade, than to any other occupation. A Greek is naturally gay, and fond of dancing, feasting, &c. The women are handsome; and if they enjoyed as much liberty as in France, appear capable of availing themselves of it.

Dr. Lewis Valentin, member of the academy, and of the medical society at Marseilles, has proposed a plan for a reward to be decreed to Dr. Edward Jenner. It is ten years, says Dr. V. since Doctor Jenner ascertained, that vaccination is a certain preservative against the small pox. It is more than thirty since he first examined into the nature of cow-pox. It is nine since he published his valuable discovery; and seven since his practice was introduced into France. It is now disseminated throughout almost every part of the Globe; millions of individuals have experienced its beneficial effects; and every day is marked by numerous and uniform instances of its success. Two years had scarcely elapsed before the question appeared to be completely solved, and at present there cannot remain a doubt, but the most loathsome and destructive of diseases may be annihilated by means of vaccination.

What thanks do we not owe to the author of this new method? all nations shower on him their benedictions. Every country, every town, would gladly have it in its power to offer him a civic crown; and every individual, to express his gratitude! What mortal ever rendered a greater benefit to society? No reward, no title, is an adequate compensation for it. The noble and generous manner, in which Jenner promulgated the knowledge he had acquired, and his eagerness to make public the results of his experiments, are above all praise. As the object was a grand revolution in this important branch of physic, and the good of his fellow creatures, by a practice as simple as extraordinary; he thought nothing of the time, the labour or expense, incurred by a correspondence of immense extent; provided he could but ensure its success.

The physicians of France were not the last, to declare him the *benefactor of mankind*, and thus he has been proclaimed by the voice of the public. The central committee of vaccination established at Paris under the auspices of government, to which the French are indebted for the first trials of the new inoculation, as well as for the greater part of the happy results of the zeal of its members, says, in the report which it published in 1803: "The committee cannot conclude this report of its proceedings, without paying, in the name of the subscribers, a just tribute of gratitude to the illustrious author of the discovery, Dr. Jenner, who must henceforward be ranked among those men, who have done most honour to science, and the greatest service to mankind."

The reward bestowed on Jenner, by the British Parliament in 1802, though accompanied with many honourable expressions, was much too little for the incalculable advantages arising from his discovery. That the English nation, in the reign of queen Anne, should have loaded the duke of Marlborough with honours; that, as a reward of his victories, it should have given him the estate of Woodstock, proudly built the magnificent palace of Blenheim, and erected on an eminence in its park, a superb

monument, the base of which covered with inscriptions, attests his warlike exploits, and supports a statue of that general; excites in us no astonishment. But it is the more surprising, that such a nation should have done nothing more for Jenner, since 1802.* We only observe, that in 1805 the lord mayor and corporation of London, gave him a testimony of the public gratitude, by voting him the freedom of the city in a gold box set with diamonds.

Many inhabitants of the East Indies, particularly in Bengal and Madras, struck with the smallness of his parliamentary remuneration, have just opened a subscription, the produce of which is to be offered to Jenner, to whom they were indebted for the means of extirpating the most destructive scourge of that country.

Jenner is become a man of all nations. Like Hippocrates he belongs to the world at large. His name will live eternally to the remotest posterity; but it is the present generation, that ought to bestow on him an ample reward. May it prove a reward worthy of one of the grandest periods of human history! May the French nation which knows how to value what is great, not have to regret the delaying it too long!

On these considerations, I would propose to all the societies for improving the art of healing established throughout the French empire, first, to open with the consent and under the patronage of government, a subscription in favour of Dr. Jenner. Secondly, the committee of the central society of vaccination, and the medical societies of the metropolis, should, have the exclusive privilege of deciding on the nature of the recompense to be decreed to that great man. Thirdly, these societies shall appoint some of their members, to present a plan for this purpose; and to obtain of his excellency the minister of the home department permission, to invite the medical societies in the country to contribute to this present by voluntary subscrip-

tions. Fourthly, every learned society, every individual who cultivates the art of healing, every member of a committee of vaccination, should be at liberty to subscribe. Fifthly, at the time fixed for closing the subscription, the committee formed by the societies of Paris should be appointed deputies, to proceed to England, as soon as circumstances and the government will permit, to present our homage and our acknowledgement to Dr Jenner. Sixthly, the same committee should determine the proper place and time for erecting a statue to him. 7thly, It is to be presumed, that the medical societies will be eager to place the bust of Jenner by the side of that of Hippocrates.

Arabic Maxims.

As reason distinguishes man from brutes, morals in the most extensive sense of the word, including the greater and the less, morals and manners, or the whole conduct of life, distinguish man from man. The Orientals have always been eminent for inculcating those in apophthegms, as well as in fable; yet chiefly perhaps because they have not trusted them so much as other people to oral communication, but have committed them to written records; for the "wisdom of nations," as Richardson happily expresses it, is to be met with in every country. A new collection in Arabic, with a Latin version, has lately been published at Vienna by M. de Dombay, under the title of *Ebn Medini Mauri Fessani Sententia*. The original title, translated literally, is: *A Present to the Man of Sense, and Amusement for the Wise*; and the author, or compiler, was Abou Medin ben Hammad Maugrebi, a celebrated physician at Fez, who died in 1193. From this work, which is in high reputation in the empire of Morocco, M. de Dombey has selected 341 sentences, very few of which were before known to the European reader: and perhaps the following specimen of them may not be unacceptable to our readers.

To turn the head frequently from side to side is a mark of a frivolous mind and a fickle disposition.

* Parliament has since voted Dr. Jenner twenty thousand pounds, in addition to the thousand first voted.

To turn the head frequently from one side to the other is a fault.

Two habits mark him who is void of sense; he frequently turns his head from side to side, and he answers precipitately.

If you fall into a passion standing, sit down: if you fall into a passion sitting, lie down.

Would you succeed in any affair, gailop over danger.

Sin is like fire: take away its fuel, it goes out of itself.

Boldly to face an assailant is the strongest shield.

When the mantle of misfortune unfolds itself, it is sometimes found to have enclosed an unexpected present.

I am surprised at the conduct of the man, who buys slaves to give them their liberty. Why does he not rather buy free men by his benefits? thus he would make them his slaves.

Prudent Foresight almost triumphs over Fate itself.

He who fears the day of reckoning, takes care what he buys.

He who gives himself up to idleness, instead of labouring in some profitable employment, depends no doubt for a livelihood on something else than honest industry.

To refuse alms with harshness, is to degrade yourself beneath the beggar.

No place is, so capable of con-

taining your secret, as your own heart: if your own be not large enough to hold it, you cannot blame another's for letting it out.

A firm determination renders the heart joyful: the uncertainty of a wavering mind produces vexation.

I admire the man, who leads the life of the poor in this world, and on the day of retribution in the next finds himself among the rich.

Honours and high stations are not exempt from fear.

To give all we have is the last effort of liberality.

He who can be guilty of a crime is deficient in sense.

Kiss the hand of a treacherous enemy, if you cannot cut it off.

Under the guise of a friend, an enemy is sometimes found; and danger sometimes meets us on the safest road.

The worst a generous man can do is to withhold his benefits; and the best you can hope from a bad man is, that he shall do you no harm.

The man who is poor and wise despises the pomp of the rich fool.

The promises of a generous man are ready money and payment beforehand; those of a mean man are put offs and delays.

Man by his industry, as the lion by his strength, finds subsistence wherever he may be.

DISCOVERIES AND IMPROVEMENTS IN ARTS, MANUFACTURES, &c.

Patent of Mr. Richard Witty of Kingston, upon Hull, for rotative Steam Engines on a new principle, simpler, cheaper, and less liable to be out of repair than those now in use.

Dated Feb. 1810.

IN Mr. Witty's steam engine, cylinders with pistons moving in a rectilinear direction, are made to cause a rotative motion, of which they themselves partake, by obtruding weights outwards, from the centre of a wheel, (serving as a fly or momentum wheel), at its upper part, and again retracting them at its lower part, towards the cen-

tre, which causing always an excess of weight at one side of the wheel, must give it thereby a rotative motion.

Different methods are mentioned by the patentee of applying the above principle. The first consists in fixing four (or more) working cylinders with loaded pistons, in the direction of the radii of the wheel, with an equal number of short tubes communicating between their bottoms and a horizontal pipe, at right angles to them, which forms an hollow revolving axis, into which a fixed axis is fitted, in the manner of the core of a stop cock, so

as to be steam tight. In this fixed axis are formed two horizontal tubes, one at its upper and another at its lower part, the first of which communicates with the boiler, and the latter with the condenser: circular apertures, are made above and below, through the fixed axle from those tubes, within the part, where they are covered by the revolving hollow axle; by which as the machine revolves, the short tubes from the bottoms of the cylinders alternately communicate with the boiler, and the condensers through the passages mentioned: in the first case the loaded pistons are driven out from the center by the pressure of the steam; in the second they are retracted towards the center by the condensation. The loaded pistons are connected in pairs at the opposite sides of the machine, by two strong rods passing outside from cross pieces fixed to the tops of the loaded pistons. The loaded pistons fill the entire cavity of the cylinders, which are of course open at their outer end. The pistons are turned or drawn so as to be truly cylindrical, and the stuffing is fixed to the internal edges of the cylinders, by ring plates and screws, instead of being fastened to the pistons. A weighed circumference of metal, enclosing the cylinders and parts described at equal distances in every part from the fixed axle, forms a fly wheel to equalize the momentum of the revolution, and a frame to connect the parts firmly together.

In the second method, the cylinders move in and out from the center on tubes proceeding from the hollow axle, round which tubes stuffing boxes are placed at the inner ends of the cylinders, to make the joints steam tight; from the other ends of the cylinders rods proceed, that work through the circumference of the fly wheel, to which the apparatus is attached, and confine the cylinders to move in the radial lines. The cylinders in this method form the weights that turn the machine: the pistons are attached to the end of the tubes on which the cylinders move; and the communications between the boiler and condenser, and the cylinders, are made through these tubes, and through

the hollow rotative and fixed axes.

In the third method a cylinder passes entirely along the diameter of the wheel, and two weighed packed pistons connected by a rod move in it at opposite extremities; on the middle of the outside of the cylinder are cast axes, on which it turns: on the side of the cylinder pipes pass from its extremities to the center, where they communicate with perforated rotative and fixed axes, serving as circular valves, or stop-cocks, in the manner before described, to lead alternately to the boiler and condenser. The ends of the cylinder are closed by plates screwed to flanges, and the steam acts alone on the outer extremities of the pistons between them and those plates. Where two of these cylinders cross at right angles, the piston rod of one is split, or double, to let that of the other pass.

In the fourth method the cylinders at opposite sides of the wheel are managed so as to have the steam to act on both sides of the piston; and piston rods passing outward from them through stuffing boxes protrude weights attached to their ends, and again retract them alternately. The pipes are so placed that the steam enters the outer end of one cylinder, and the inner end of that opposite to it at the same time, and the piston rods are connected by cross pieces and external rods in the same manner as those of the first method, and the hollow rotative and fixed axes form communications between the boiler and condenser and the cylinders in the same mode successively.

For large engines of this description a different sort of perforated axes are used from those described;—in this latter kind, the axle has as many tubular perforations in it longitudinally as there are cylinders, each of which tubes communicates with its respective cylinder, by a pipe at right angles from one of its ends, while the other end opens into a circular aperture at the side of the axle; a fixed cylindrical ring embraces the axle where these apertures terminate, from which pipes pass in opposite directions to the boiler and the condenser. The perforated axle is ground into this hollow ring so as

to be steam tight, in the same manner that stop-cocks are made staunch.

The steam engines are made to turn either way, according to the side of the vertical line at which the aperture of the tubular valve, or cock, which communicates with the boiler, is placed; and Mr. Witty has contrived a method of changing the position of this aperture at pleasure, by a sliding, or shifting piece in the steam pipe; by which means the engine becomes fitted for drawing up coals from pits, and for similar operations, which require the wheel to move both ways.

The boilers, condensers, and air pumps, are the same for these engines as for those in common use; and pumps, or other alternating apparatus, are moved by cranks applied to the axle of the engine.

Observations... Mr. Witty's rotative engine has the advantage of all others of this nature, yet brought forward, in the facility of packing the pistons, and in the duration of the packing; the patentee observes on this head with much truth, "that he has found, and doubts not that others have also proved that pistons move with much greater facility, and much tighter, on a straight line in a cylinder, than in any other direction: consequently lighter packing, makes them steam tight; the operation of re-packing and screwing it down is easier to perform, and they are less liable to get out of order than revolving pistons."

In these engines, beams are entirely superseded, and the substitute for valves is simpler than most others in use, except Mr. Dixon's sliding valve, being analogous to the cock with four ways, used in some of Mr. Trevithick's engines, and in some others.

Though a number of cylinders in this plan would be of use in equalizing the application of the weight in impelling the wheel, yet many are not absolutely necessary; where cheapness and simplicity are the chief objects, one cylinder alone, at one side of the wheel with a loaded piston, communicating by a rod with an equal weight at the opposite side, would turn the wheel round; and two cylinders at right angles to each

other, managed in this manner, would produce a very sufficient equality of impulse. Very little momentum would be lost in this engine, and but a small expense of framework would be required for fixing it in comparison to others.

The inconvenience which might arise from the centrifugal force of the weighted pistons, is obviated in a great measure by their being connected at opposite sides, so that they balance each other; and in most other respects this is the least objectionable, and most easily made of any of the rotative steam engines yet made public.

But with all these advantages it will take a considerable time, it is imagined, before they can be sold as cheap as beam engines of the same powers, on account of the greater expense of the cylinders, and of the bracing work necessary for fixing them firmly in the fly wheel. The tubular valve formed by the hollow axle, will be difficult to keep tight, as all stop-cocks are, which are much worked, and the fitting of both is on the same principle.

The longer the stroke of the pistons is for a given expense of steam, and the nearer the weights can be made to approach the center in their return, the greater will be the power of this engine; for thus the efficient weight will have the longer lever to act by in impelling the wheel, and that of the counteracting weight will be shorter; but in this case the centrifugal force of the counter weight will not balance that of the efficient weight in the whole of its motion, and this must be remedied either by checking the admission of the steam sooner beneath the ascending weight, or by regulating the machine so as to turn round more slowly.

With a single cylinder this rotative engine would have a power analogous to a fixed cylinder turning a wheel by a crank of equal length to the distance of the center of the efficient weight from the axle, with a force equal to the excess of the efficient weight above that of the counteracting weight, determined by the difference of the levers by which they act; two cylinders would give the force of two such cranks placed at right angles to each other, and a very

great number of cylinders would have the same effect nearly, as if about half the above mentioned excess of weight always acted at the extremity of the horizontal radius of the wheel; and according as the number of cylinders was great or small it would approximate one of those extremes. This is but a rough calculation of the powers of this engine, but it may suffice as well to give an idea of it to most of our readers, as one of more mathematical precision.

Very little more momentum would be lost in this engine, than what was consumed in the motion of the weighted pistons to and from the centre of the wheel, above the reduction of this, which could be effected by the well known mode of regulating the admission of the steam invented by Mr Watt.

The chief point of comparison in steam engines is, which will have most power for the least consumption of fuel; the next is, which will be cheapest in first cost and repairs, for equal powers. To the first point, Mr. Witty does not state that his engine has any superior pretensions, nor are any apparent: and those which he states it has to the second, can only be proved by comparing the prices of his engines with those on the common percussive principle, of equal efficacy.

The figures of Mr. Witty's engines may be seen in the Repository of Arts, xvii. 130. pl. 8.

Patent of Mr. William Docksey of Bristol, Millwright, for improvements in the process for manufacturing ivory black, and for pulverizing all articles, in which this operation is facilitated by torrefaction, or calcination, especially potter's clay, flints, colouring, and glazing materials.

Mr. Docksey's method of preparing ivory black, and the other articles mentioned in the title, consists in manufacturing them with a very small quantity of water, in grinding or reducing them to powder: by which much labour is saved and the stoves for evaporating the water, used in the processes now practised, are rendered unnecessary, and which pro-

cesses of drying injured the colour of ivory black. The patentee describes his method of making ivory black as follows.

"To manufacture ivory black, I take the bones and sloughs of the horns of animals, and calcine them to blackness, in close or air tight vessels. I then crush them in their dry state, between metal rollers of about two feet diameter, until they are broken sufficiently small to pass through a hopper into the eye of a millstone, and be reduced to powder between millstones, in an horizontal position, exactly similar to the method of reducing or grinding corn to flour. By a like process the powder thus obtained is then partly passed through a dressing machine constructed with brushes and fine iron and brass wire, upon a circular frame inclosed within a rim, which receives it. Such part as passes through the meshes of the wire (which should be about 60 to an inch) is sufficiently fine for use, and is damped down by a small quantity of water sprinkled upon it, and packed for sale;—the coarser part is returned to the hopper, and ground over again between the stones."

With respect to the flints, potter's clay, and colour and glazing materials, Mr. Docksey states his method is to take the calcined flint, dry clay, calcined lead, lead ore, manganese, or other article of this nature, and pass it under stampers, or heavy hammers to break it sufficiently small to pass between metal rollers, where it is crushed so fine as to be reduced to a pulverulent state: it is then ground in its dry state, between mill stones, in a manner similar to that before described for manufacturing ivory black. It is then passed through a dressing machine (inclosed within a very tight and close bin which receives it) the coarser part being thus separated, the finer part are then mixed with water in a tub or deep vessel. The coarser parts are farther separated by subsidence, and the finer parts passed through a fine lawn or cypress sieve: the water is then drained off, and evaporated by heat from the substance.

Observations.... There is not sufficient novelty in any of the above processes, to render this patent of any apparent use to its owner, except that of having the name of selling a patent article.

Account of the method proposed by Colonel Caulfield Lennox, of constructing, and putting in its place an Iron Tunnel under the River Thames.

Phil. Mag. xxxvi 34.

Colonel Lennox proposes that the Tunnel shall be cast in portions of its length of ten feet each, which in the figure annexed to his paper, resembles an arched gate-way, eighteen feet broad, twelve feet high at the sides, and ten feet long, with a convex top rising two feet in the middle. They are to be made of cast iron, four inches thick at the bottom and sides, and three at the top, with double flanches inside and outside, one foot broad, and four inches thick; each frame the colonel calculates, will weigh forty tons,

Those frames or portions, are to be united to each other, by screws four inches diameter, and nuts of a proportional size; and to have sheet lead half an inch thick put between the flanches, or the joints secured with the cement employed by steam engine builders. Cramps are also mentioned for connecting the two adjoining flanches at bottom, but no farther description of them is given but that they are each to be twelve inches broad, six inches thick, and two feet high.

Tubes of eight inches bore, with openings to receive leakage water, are to be cast in the angles at the bottoms of the frames, by which the whole is to be kept dry, with a properly constructed pump.

The colonel proposes that eighty of these frames shall be screwed together, with half inch lead between the flanches, with their two extremities close stopped with strong oak plank, on the side of the river rather below the level of low water, in a situation where the tide may have free access; and that (a level bed having been previously excavated for this tunnel, across the bottom of the river, six-

teen feet deep, and from 60 to 80 feet wide) the whole be floated to the required situation, at spring tide, and sunk in its proper place, either by additional weights applied, or by admitting a certain quantity of water into it, and asserts that, in case of any irregularity in its descent, or unevenness in the bed prepared to receive it, it will again become buoyant by removing the additional weights, or by pumping out the water by pumps previously secured in each end frame.

Calculation of the weight of this tunnel in round numbers.

| | Cubic Feet | | Tons. |
|---|------------|-------|-------|
| Cast Iron, | 20,090 | about | 4270 |
| Lead, | 566 | | 178 |
| Oak, | 200 | | 5 |
| | | | 4453 |
| Water displaced, 1,850,000 cubic feet | | | 5169 |
| | | | 709 |
| This tunnel will require to sink it more than | | | 709 |
| Exclusive of the convexity at top, estimated at | | | 60 |
| | | | 769 |

The following is the manner proposed of sinking this machine by the additional weights.

Two short ropes with loops at each end are to be passed over each frame, and slightly secured in their places; and when the machine is floated to its destined situation (which should be an hour before low water at the lowest tide) anchors and cables being in readiness to secure it in its place, then a number of boats (suppose 160) shall attend half on one side, and half on the other, each with five tons of ballast conveniently disposed so as immediately to hook on to the ends of the short ropes before mentioned, in such a manner that one end of the tunnel shall not sink before the other, but both exactly together. These weights may be so regulated as occasion may require, should there appear any irregularity in its descent; and when it is placed as desired and the water admitted to fill it, they may be removed altogether. The whole of this operation might be effected in two hours, that preceding, and that following ebb tide, if every previous arrangement was properly made. The machine consisting of 80 frames of the length mentioned, would extend

800 feet, which the colonel supposes to be the breadth of that part of the bottom of the river, which could conveniently be made level.

When this part of the tunnel was fixed in its place, the ends might be finished as on dry land, by piling off the tide at low water mark;—and they might either be formed by a continuation of the same cast iron frames, or by arches of masonry or brick work, as might be judged best. After this there would only remain to open the communication with the middle part, by removing the oak planking at each end, and pumping out the water; when by laying a sufficient quantity of ballast, so as to form a road way, clear above the lower flanches, and restoring the banks to their former state, the tunnel would be immediately ready for use.

In the execution of this project a situation should be chosen close to low water mark of nearly 300 yards in length, where it would be necessary to lay down blocks of sufficient strength to support so great a weight; and upon which the whole 80 frames may be screwed together. Its level should at least be fifteen feet below that of the spring tides, to ensure the floating of the machine when completed.

The materials of the tunnel, Colonel Lenox calculates to cost about £44,000; and allowing fifty per cent additional for all other charges incurred in its execution, he does not conceive that the expense would exceed the sum of £66,000.

If it should be desired to enlarge the tunnel so as to afford a foot path in addition to the space allowed for two carriages to pass, the colonel conceives it may safely be done by giving it six more feet in width, making altogether twenty-four feet between the interior flanches; and in order to afford it still greater strength, he would in this case omit the interior lateral flanches, and in their place, put plates of cast iron, three or four inches thick the full height of the sides, and extending from the middle of one frame to that of the next, to be fastened, by a number of the same kind of screws before mentioned, to the two adjoining frames, with sheet lead between them and the

frames completely covering the joint inside. This would give the tunnel great additional strength, besides that it would leave nearly a foot more of free space inside. The increase of expense by this alteration would not, the colonel thinks, much exceed twelve or fifteen thousand pounds, in addition to the sum before stated.

In order to obviate the objection which might arise from the difficulty of transporting frames of the weight of forty tons, from the foundry to the river, the colonel states that they may be cast in separate pieces (if the other method should appear impracticable) with flanches to join them at the corners. In this case the joinings of the different parts are to be so disposed that no two of the transverse joinings shall coincide; which would give additional strength to the whole, as every joint may thus be supported with three solid pieces, at that place where it occurs.

The colonel thinks the chief difficulty in this project would arise in the excavation of the bed for the tunnel at the bottom of the river of the depth required; but this, he states, might be obviated by chusing another situation for it, where the present depth of the river would be sufficient, to allow free space for vessels to pass over it, when sunk at low water.

Observations.... This plan for making a tunnel across the Thames would probably be found as easy of execution as any yet published; and would have the advantage over that first proposed by the company for constructing a tunnel across the river at Redriff, of saving full twenty feet in the descent, which would much facilitate the passage of carriages. There are however some difficulties in the execution of the business, which do not seem to have occurred to Colonel Lenox, one of which is, that as soon as the iron tunnel was lowered down, it would be almost impossible to move it, after it had settled on the bottom (in case it should be desired to do so from its having assumed a wrong position, either in its longitudinal or transverse direction) for instead of becoming buoyant again on removing the additional weights laid on to sink it, in all probability it would require

a force to raise it equal to the weight of the superincumbent water added to that of the pressure of the atmosphere. Because when it had settled in mud so tenacious as that of the Thames, the water once forced out from under it would in a little time be so completely excluded, as to prevent the pressure acting at all beneath it so as to give it any tendency to rise, and it would be then held down by the weight of the water above it, and by that of the atmosphere, in the same way as the two brass hemispheres, are held together by the latter pressure alone in the well known pneumatic experiment. Perhaps some method might be devised of preventing this accident, but no obvious means appear at present of doing so effectually. It will be best therefore to be extremely cautious in preparing the bed for the iron tunnel, and in sinking it very slowly and carefully into its proper situation, if the plan should receive that trial it so well merits.

On a sandy or stony bottom, a caution of a precisely opposite nature would be necessary, for on such a bottom the tunnel would have a tendency to rise, when the water was pumped out of it; this however could be easily prevented by having the top formed with ledges so as to retain stones or earth thrown on it to keep it down, or by having projecting cases attached to the sides for the same purpose.

Of the plans proposed by Colonel Lenox for constructing the tunnel, the last mentioned by him seems the best, on account of its greater strength, the greater portability of the parts, and its not having the obstruction of the large internal flanches, which would occupy no less than an eighth of the internal breadth, reckoning the eighteen feet mentioned for the breadth to be outside measure. The great wrought iron screws, proposed for fastening the frames together are very objectionable on account of the speedy decay to which wrought iron is liable in or near salt water; large copper rivets would be much preferable, and would cost little if any thing more, on account of their requiring so much less workmanship in their fabrication. The idea of constructing and floating off, and fixing in its place so large a

portion of the tunnel as 800 feet seems a very grand one, and indicates a comprehensive and enlarged mind in its ingenious suggester, and does him much credit.

There does not seem to be any reason for confining the shape of the tunnel to a perfect right line, besides its being applicable to the part of the river for which it is proposed; where the bottom of a river was curved, the tunnel for it might be curved likewise so as to fit it, which would occasion much less cost in excavating a proper bed for it, in this case a water-tight pipe must be carried from the pump to the center of the tunnel, to free it from water. A straight tunnel would perhaps be best posited so as to be a little lower at one end than the other, in order to give the leakage water a fall to the pump, and the bed of the Thames at the place intended for the tunnel, has just such a slope towards the Redriff side, according to the section of it published by the tunnel company.

Colonel Lennox omitted to state in his directions for placing the iron tunnel, that it should be furnished with a pipe from its top, to let the air escape, as otherwise it would be impossible to let the water into it as he proposes. This pipe should have a stop cock to regulate the passage of the air; by the proper management of which, the descent of the tunnel to its own depth might be made as gradual as could be desired (if the mode of sinking it by admitting the water into it was adopted) but below this depth the descent would require to be regulated by hawsers lowered by degrees from lighters stationed above it at regular intervals, as otherwise, after it got beneath the water, it would be precipitated to the bottom with an accelerated velocity, which might either cause it to burst, or to be fixed unalterably in a position so unfavourable as to render it entirely unserviceable.

Hyperoxymuriatic acid shown to be muriatic acid deprived of Hydrogen; by Mr. Davy.

Phil. Mag. xxxvi. 70.

A paper on muriatic acid was read by Mr. Davy, before the royal so-

ciety, on the 28th of June, the object of which was to detail some new facts respecting it. Finding that charcoal, though ignited to whiteness, will not burn or decompose oxymuriatic gas, he was led to institute experiments to determine whether oxygen could be procured from it by any means; and the results of his inquiries are, that there is no proof whatever of its containing that substance. Muriatic acid gas may be decomposed into oxymuriatic acid, and hydrogen. In all cases in which oxygen gas is procured from oxymuriatic gas, water is present; and the oxygen is furnished by the water; and hydrogen is always combined with the oxymuriatic gas; so that as inflammable bodies decompose water by attracting oxygen substance, oxymuriatic acid decomposes it by attracting hydrogen. Mr. Davy has detailed some experiments, which render it probable that the substance called hyperoxymuriatic acid, is in fact the simple basis of the muriatic compounds, and that it forms oxymuriatic acid, by uniting to hydrogen, and common muriatic acid by uniting to more hydrogen.

In attempting to decompose oxymuriatic acid gas, by the combustion of phosphorus and the action of ammonia, Mr. Davy discovered a very singular compound, which though composed of oxymuriatic acid and ammonia, with a little phosphorus, is neither-fusible, volatile, nor decomposable at a white heat, and neither soluble in acid, nor alkaline menstrua; and possessed of no taste or smell.

Mr. Davy has detailed nine modes of decomposing common salt, founded on these new facts, and has formed nine deductions from them respecting the composition of chemical agents in general.

Observations....The great use made of oxymuriatic acid in the arts renders the above information peculiarly interesting. The facts related are to be understood of oxymuriatic gas, deprived of its water by a previous process, for this gas in its common state has been shown to contain oxygen by Mr. Davy himself, having in his lectures exhibited the

combustion in it of various inflammable substances, of which that of leaf copper was peculiarly brilliant.

Though dry oxymuriatic and muriatic gases, do not as yet yield oxygen to chemical operations, we must not conclude that they are proved not to contain it, on the contrary there are many strong analogies to support the affirmative, and the most enlightened chemists are of this opinion.

An account of the Method of manufacturing Salt at Moutiers, in the Department of Mont Blanc. By M. Berthier, Mine Engineer.

Journal Des Mines.

Continued from p. 62, No. XXIV

When the brine which has been passed through these sheds, has arrived to, at least, 16^e of concentration, it is conveyed into the clearing cisterns.

These clearing cisterns are large basins formed of planks enclosed in covered buildings. The salt-work has two of them, one on each side of the river. In these cisterns the brine which has been graduated is kept in store, ready to be conveyed to the boilers. Here it becomes clearer, and deposits every substance that it holds suspended.

There are at the salt-works four boilers, of an equal size and form, to evaporate the graduated brine. They are between seven and eight mètres long, five or six broad, and half a metre deep. Their solid contents is 23114 decimetres cubes, and when filled with brine they hold 20800. They are made of strong iron plates, between 0.004 and 0.005 met. (1.6th in.) thick, fastened together by rivets. The bottom of them is level with the floor of the boiling-house, and sustained at its circumference by twelve cast iron pillars, 0.12 metres square. Besides these, there lie across the boilers even with their edge, very large beams parallel to one another, to which a great number of hooks are fastened which are fixed to the bottom of the boiler. The under part of these boilers is entirely open. One part is taken up by the fire place, and the flame circulates under the remainder. The

fire-place is 2.5 metres broad, and 3.5 metres deep. It has a grate formed of triangular cast iron bars, which is 0.85 metres (34 inches) below the bottom of the boilers. The ash-hole under the grate is closed up, and only opened when the ashes are withdrawn. The air is supplied by two side channels which are opened alternately according to the direction of the wind. The chimney is at that end which is opposite to the fire-place, it passes obliquely along one part of the building which it heats, and which is used as a drying room, and then goes out at top. This chimney is furnished with a register, by which the opening may be altered at pleasure, in order to regulate the draught. A small wall placed at the end of the fire-place, obliges the heated air and smoke to distribute themselves under the boiler. Lastly, each of the boilers is covered with a very large wooden chimney, which comes down within two metres of the floor, and carries the steam out of the building.

When a boiling is intended to take place, a boiler is filled with brine from the cisterns, by pipes for that purpose. Wood is then placed on the grate, and lighted; the fire is kept up brisk, so as to boil the brine quickly during the whole of the first part of the boiling or *schelotage*, which generally takes up twenty-six hours, when the brine is at 18° hydrom.

During all this time, the boiler is kept constantly full. As soon as the brine begins to boil, a quantity of scum is formed, which is thrown on the sides and taken away. This scum arises from the vegetable extractive matter that is contained in the brine, and is separated by heat, and its combination with oxygen; but some still remains in the brine when the boiling is finished. It is not customary at Moutiers to add any bullock's blood, or white of eggs, which would probably separate the whole of this extract. In a short time the sulphate of lime, with which the brine is saturated, begins to settle at the bottom of the boiler, and accumulates in those parts which are the coolest; it draws down along with it a good deal of sulphate of soda, and

common salt, and forms a mixture which is called *schelot*. In order to get rid of this, there is placed near the edges of the boiler between the beams, square troughs of plate-iron, and peels are used to collect this deposit and convey it into the troughs, when these are full, they are taken away, drained for a few minutes, and emptied into a hole sunk in the floor, near the workman: they are then replaced, and the same is repeated as often as is necessary. In about seventeen hours, the salt begins to appear: nevertheless more brine is still added, and the deposit separated, for nine hours, at the end of which time the boiler is full of water at 27° hydrom. ready to yield its salt. Now begins the collecting of the salt.

This collection is made either in the boilers, or on the rope shed.

When the salt is collected in the boilers, the fire is diminished; and no more than four or five billets are put into the fire place, which is sufficient to keep the water very hot, but not boiling. The salt forms what are called *pieds de mouche*. It crystallises in the form of hoppers at the surface of the liquid, and produces a crust, which the workman throws down occasionally, by sprinkling on it some brine, by means of a small wooden shovel. He draws the scum to one corner, and throws it out of the boiler; he then collects the salt with a peel, and puts it into wooden funnels, supported between the beams. These funnels when filled are left till the moisture has entirely drained off by the opening at bottom; and they are then carried to the drying room; from whence, when the salt is dry, they are carried to the stores, where no separation is made between the salt collected at the beginning or end of a boiling. The collecting of the salt is continued, by a very small fire, during five or six days, until such time as the salt becomes yellow, bitter, and too impure to be saleable. The boiler judges entirely by practice, and seldom or never makes use of the hydrometer that was formerly employed. The mother water that remains is reddish, thick, viscous, bitter, and has a strong smell:

it is drawn off into a cistern, used for that purpose, and a new boiling is begun.

In fine weather, which lasts at the most three or four months, the brine when saturated is conveyed to the rope shed, and raised up as often as

is necessary, by means of the buckets, until it becomes thick and viscous, or what is called *fat*. It is then conveyed either into one of the cisterns of that shed, or immediately to the great cistern of the mother-waters.

To be Continued.

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MONTHLY RETROSPECT OF POLITICS.

"Tis all a libel—Vicary, Sir, will say.

"Not yet my friend! to-morrow but

"it may;

"And for that very cause, I print

"to-day."

IT may surely be granted to the drudge, who, in writing a political retrospect in the present inauspicious times, when he has so much of the unpleasant, and so little of the agreeable to record, who—

"With lab'ring step

"Must trace the former footsteps: pace

"the round

"Eternal, to climb life's worn, heavy

"wheel

"Which draws up nothing new: to beat

"and beat

"The beaten track,"

to avail himself of every aid he can command, at once to lighten his own labour, and by an interesting and pleasing variety, to render the task imposed on him, more acceptable to the public. Thus, in the present instance, the person who, for this time holds the pen, gladly avails himself for an introduction to this month's retrospect of the following energetic and just sentiments, conveyed to him in a letter, from a correspondent in England, who, for a spirit of lofty independence and just political opinions, is second to no man. The propriety of the reasoning, and the true delineation of the hardship in cases of supposed libels will recommend the extract to

the true lovers of freedom, and tend it is hoped to revive the almost expiring embers of the once highly cherished but now almost apparently extinguished flame of liberty.

"The severe sentence on Cobbett will have a tendency for a while to lower the tone of the press and to damp the exertions of the timid. But there are men who are not thus to be dismayed, whose spirit like the waves of the ocean, are known to rise in proportion to the storm.

"In this country justice between man and man may be fairly administered, but between man and the government, this, in my opinion, is not the case. Let us state, for instance, the proprietor of a newspaper. Sedition and libel cannot be defined. The attorney general fastens upon this, or that particular paragraph, and the clerk of the crown nominates a number of individuals, from whom a jury is to be selected, and though the accused person may have a right of challenge, yet if the vacancies in the jury are to be filled up from the number appointed by the officer of the crown, the situation of the individual is by no means improved. He is tried by a prejudiced and of course by a partial jury, and nine times out of ten the decisions are in favour of government. I say prejudiced and partial, and I think without exaggeration, for the clerk of the crown will ever be the creature

of the crown, and will take care to nominate men whose political sentiments are in unison with his own. And thus the stream of justice becomes feculent at its very source and the liberty and property of man are decided upon by despotism in the disguise of free forms, which in my opinion, is the worst of all species of slavery. *From a nation that is enslaved and knows it, we can expect every thing; but a nation that is enslaved and imagines itself free, is in a perilous state indeed.*

"On the other hand, let us suppose the proprietor of a newspaper to have been prosecuted and acquitted, what is his situation? He has incurred the expense of two or three hundred pounds. The minds of himself and family have been greatly distressed; and he has not the least redress. Nay, in the course of a few weeks or months, the attorney general may pounce upon him again; and thus harrassed, he must either be ruined or lower his tone. The paper becomes flat and insipid, his customers fall off, the property is offered for sale, and purchased by some government agent, and thus oppression is triumphant. This is not an ideal picture, the proprietor of the *Liverpool Chronicle* was prosecuted by the attorney general, was convicted, and confined in Lancaster castle; his affairs went to ruin, and he is now a journeyman printer."

At the late dinner given by the electors of Westminster to their worthy representative, and in commemoration of his liberation from the Tower, Sir Francis Burdett appeared with undiminished lustre, to the confusion of his numerous enemies; for the friends of corruption are all in different degrees his enemies. His luke warm friends may also see that he acts on independent ground, uninfluenced by popular clamour, and can thus justify his not taking a part in the procession on the day that parliament was prorogued. After the dinner he made a dignified speech to the company, and declared *that his first object was the approbation of his own mind.* Acting on so enlightened and truly worthy motives, he rises superior to the selfish views which actuate clamorous demagogues, and has a fixed principle

of action superior to that versatility, which is influenced by the popular breath, often thoughtlessly given, and as thoughtlessly withdrawn: for fanatical passionate leaders often make fanatical passionate followers, and neither act wisely nor effectually. A popular ferment is raised, but for want of coolness and perseverance nothing valuable is achieved. There is a smoke but no lasting flame.

In the course of his speech, speaking of the present state of parties, he showed that the Fox party may now be said to be almost, if not entirely, extinct, having merged into that of the Grenvillites. Let us fondly cherish the hope, that the *party of the people* will increase. Statesmen by profession have too frequently been influenced in some parts of their conduct by the selfish views of private interests, but a people alive to their own interests, and following leaders only so far as they have, after repeated trials, found them to be honest, are in the best situation for reclaiming or retaining their liberties. It is a sound political axiom, that without virtue both in *leaders* and *people*, freedom can never long be preserved. A corrupt people, enslaved by their passions and vices will soon be politically enslaved by their government, for to the views of the rulers, the vices of the people, will form the most convenient tools to effect the purposes of subjection.—Vice facilitates the acceptance of a bribe, either direct or indirect, through the posts and places in the power of a government to bestow; and those thus bought, readily join in the hunt against their less obsequious companions.

The inhabitants of these isles have much cause to be alarmed at their situation. The page of history informs of the fatal spread of luxury, and the rapid progress of despotism in imperial Rome. What Rome became, Britain may ere long be. A nation sunk in luxury never long preserved its freedom. It is the essential nature of vice to enslave. The people are the source and fountain of virtue, as well as of power; and if the people themselves are not virtuous, they in vain look for virtue in their rulers, who readily yield to the necessities

of the times, and are sufficiently pleased to rule a corrupted people by corrupt means. In fact, such a people are incapable of being ruled in any other manner. They would not support an administration that would withhold the debasing donatives and pensions which they claim for their vicious indulgences.

On the subject of the abolition of the slave trade, we meet with the following information in the fourth report of the directors of the African Institution, an association formed to watch over the interests of the much wronged inhabitants of the coasts of Africa.

It has been discovered that in defiance of all the penalties imposed by act of parliament, vessels under foreign flags, have been fitted out in the ports of Liverpool and London, for the purpose of carrying slaves from the coast of Africa to the Spanish and Portuguese settlements in America; and several adventures of this description have actually been completed.

The persons, however, who are the most deeply engaged in this detestable traffic, appear to be citizens of the United States of America. These shelter themselves from the penal consequences of their criminal conduct by means of a nominal sale both of ship and cargo to some Spanish or Swedish port, (the Havannah for example, or the island of St. Bartholomew) they are thus put in a capacity to use the flags of these states and so disguised, have carried on their slave-trading speculations during the last year, to an enormous extent.

The different communications received by the directors from the coast of Africa concur in stating, that in the month of October last, the coast was crowded with vessels known to be American, trading for slaves under Spanish and Swedish flags. The slaves thus procured, it is understood, were afterwards to be carried for sale, either to South America or to the Spanish West Indies. Some cargoes (there is reason to believe) were landed at St. Bartholomew's, and smuggled thence into English islands. The extent to which this evil has unexpectedly and suddenly proceeded, and its obvious influence on all the plans for promoting

the civilization of Africa, have induced the directors, since the last general meeting to turn a large share of their attention to the best means of restraining or removing it. Besides making the necessary representations from time to time, to government, they have taken measures for communicating to the officers of the Navy, distinct information respecting the provisions of the legislature on this point, and the manner in which those provisions have been eluded, as well as to point out the pecuniary advantages which would accrue to them from a vigorous enforcement of the abolition laws. The inducement to vigilance on the part of the navy is considerable, the captors being entitled to the forfeiture of both ship and cargo. And although all slaves found on board are liberated, yet there is a bounty allowed by government to the captors amounting to forty pounds for each man, thirty pounds for each woman, and ten pounds for each child so liberated. Instances have already occurred in which this bounty has been claimed and received.

The directors state, that in prosecuting their inquiries into this case, they uniformly experience on the part of the British government a prompt attention to their representations, and a cordial disposition to aid their efforts in preventing the infraction of the laws for the abolition of the slave trade.

It is to be remembered, to the honour of the government of the United States of America, that it seized an early opportunity of effecting the abolition of this trade as far as legislative enactments could effect it. America, however, has few or no means of enforcing her own commercial edicts. In despite of those edicts, however, her ships are now the great carriers of slaves, without any other defence against the penalties to which as Americans they are liable, than is afforded by the flag, and simulated clearances of some foreign state.

The directors have also received a letter containing much important information respecting a district of the gold coast, from Mr. Meredith. He states that the beneficial effects which might be expected to follow the abolition of the slave trade by Great Britain,

have been greatly impeded by the continuance of it, though on a reduced scale by other nations. Accusations, predatory wars, &c. are not so frequent as formerly; but kidnapping, he adds, is still practised. That the inhabitants are more industrious, and that they have more confidence in their personal safety, he thinks is clearly observable. In short, the effects which have flowed from even a partial abolition of the slave trade, seem to him to prove that a total abolition would be attended with many more beneficial consequences; for though the export of slaves from Africa be now comparatively trifling, yet it keeps alive on the coast many of the mal-practices which would otherwise cease. The total abolition, he observes, is therefore necessary.

The directors have continued to receive the most satisfactory proofs that Africans are as susceptible of intellectual and moral culture as the natives of any other quarter of the globe.

By a decision of the Commissioners of appeal in prize causes, noticed at page 156 of this magazine, it may be seen that the decision of Sir William Grant will have a strong tendency to discourage this iniquitous and clandestine traffic.

An ample account has thus been given of the present state of the slave trade, from a conviction that to the true friends of mankind, the subject is of the highest importance. To them it is of more interest than the contests of rival potentates, or the dashing against each other of the ambitious disturbers of mankind.

The present state of Ireland is not consoling. There is a jealousy, and a want of co-operation in the attainment of truly valuable ends. It is disgraceful to our national character to see the bickerings that have lately taken place among the Catholics. The different parties among them recriminate on each other in most scurrilous and opprobrious language. There is a total want of dignity in their bickerings. Let the contending parties among them at least use gentlemanlike language towards each other in their disputes, and not by their intemperance give a triumph to the enemies of

emancipation and equal rights, which will doubtless be eagerly embraced by them. Let people differ, and yet forbear to reproach those who hold different sentiments, with being actuated by the worst of motives. It is an excellent rule in disputes, and also best calculated to produce a right decision, to use soft words, but hard arguments.

Although the dissensions among the Catholics cannot but be subjects of painful regret to their liberal minded fellow citizens, yet it must be acknowledged that the Catholics suffer in many ways, perhaps, more from indirect causes, than from a want of what is termed emancipation. The spirit of the Orange system tends to prevent in many places an impartial administration of the laws in their case, at least among the inferior officers of justice. In the dernier resort the judges on several occasions, have highly to their honour, discovered a disposition to keep the fountains of justice open, and rebuked glaring instances of partiality: but much mischief may be done in cases which do not come before a court of justice, and which the parties aggrieved, have not the means to bring forward. Magistrates may not always stand plumb, and the sway of an Orange engagement may draw from a perpendicular. Officers of still an inferior rank have much in their power, and more than in one case, which accidentally came to the writer's knowledge, have constables been unwilling to come forward in a prosecution against a brother Orangeman. This observation is made, not for the purpose of promoting feelings of irritation among parties, but to point out the evils of the Orange system, and its injurious tendency on a strict and impartial execution of the laws. It is a system highly injudicious and impolitic, and replete with the seeds of favouritism and injustice. It appears to be gradually wearing away in some places, and every friend to his country, and to justice must rejoice in its total abrogation.

Since the article in the last retrospect on the subject of Holland was written, the address of Louis Bonaparte on his secession from the throne, has appeared. He seems to be worthy of a better

cause; and virtuously discovers a disposition not to rule, when only the mere pageant of authority is left to him by his all grasping brother. The Hollanders are however, scarcely deserving of a better fate. Their habits had reduced them to a state fit to become slaves, and in such a debased situation, the choice of masters is not of great importance. But the peasants of Switzerland deserved better than to be subjugated under tyrannical sway. The aristocrats of Berne and of the other cantons excite little or no interest, but the *virtuous people* of Underwalden will long be remembered in the annals of Freedom. The spirited writer of a poem reviewed in another department of this Magazine, thus characterizes the poor Swiss and the unprincipled attack of France:

"Nor Virtue yet had fled her rock-built bower

When Gaul's intruding Demon, drunk with power,

Burst on that paradise: appalled he found A Spartan fortitude embattled round.

Then spotless victims of a doom severe, They died upon their murdered country's bier;

Died not in vain, to stamp on that proud name

The weight of vengeance and the curse of shame.

Plant thy bright eagles o'er each prostrate realm,

Audacious France! and headlong from his helm

Each dozing steers-man dash, but hope not thou

Amid the plundered baubles of thy brow,

To twine a wreath from Freedom's sacred tree,

It blooms with virtue, but it dies with thee."

The fate of Switzerland, as far as the people are concerned, makes a strong impression on the haters of despotism, and here the conduct of Bonaparte appears in all the fulness of turpitude. On the score of Switzerland, we will upbraid him, even at the risque of appearing to join the mean herd, who abuse him, and yet praise the very same conduct in their patrons. But they who advocate abuses at home, have no right to blame despotism abroad; Bonaparte can only be consistently and successfully opposed by arrows drawn from the quiver of Free-

dom. Among the documents will be found an address to the Spanish people, previously to the assembling of the Cortes. It contains some just observations on the necessity of choosing suitable representatives, which might be read in these countries with advantage, but scarcely without exciting a blush at our own deficiencies. What a pity that more care had not been taken to rouse the energies of the Spanish nation to patriotism, and the love of liberty.

The business in Spain and Portugal, at least as far as British aid is concerned, is drawing fast to a termination. Ciudad Rodrigo taken, Almeida invested, the advanced guard under General Crauford defeated, and Lord Wellington's army in full retreat, with the French force daily increasing, the catastrophe cannot be at a great distance. It remains only to hope after the great and fruitless waste of blood and treasure, already experienced in those injudicious expeditions, that the retreat may be less afflicting than the extreme sufferings experienced by the army under general Moore. The prudence and caution of that General, and the complication of distresses suffered by that army will decidedly stamp in the page of history the character of imbecility and want of foresight on the policy, by which this war has been conducted by the planners in the cabinet. Yet this succession of blunders is not to be attributed to a blind fatality which could not be surmounted, or to any other cause than the superiority of a strong energetic mind, discovered in the successive rulers of France, often indeed most mischievously and immorally directed, over the wavering and feeble councils of men, assuming to be statesmen without possessing the essentially requisite abilities, or more fixed principles of justice. How changed is France! and how different are the talents of the *new men*, whom the impetus of the revolution has raised to the top of the wheel, from those of the *effete* and *feeble nobles* of the old regime. Britain has now adversaries of a different stamp, and to oppose them requires more vigour and prudence, than have yet been manifested by her statesmen. Well might Pitt on his

death-bed, on a view of the effects of the pernicious system in which he had been the ostensible actor, and mistakingly identifying his own want of success with the supposed welfare of the state, exclaim, "Ah, my country!" and well might Charles James Fox close his career of unsuccessful opposition to such fatal measures, by saying, in contemplation of the difficulties into which his country had been brought, "My friends, I pity you."

May renovated order, and all restoring reform arise out of the present confusion. Whether we contemplate our internal state, or our external relations, the necessity of reform is by the experience of every successive day becoming more apparent to those who will open their eyes to see the dangers which await us! We are told of the dangers of reform, by men interested in the continuance of abuses, but the dangers of an obstinate retention of corruption, and a senseless pertinacity in error, are more to be dreaded, as pressing more fatally on us in the present crisis, as prognostics of the disease which afflicts us.

DOCUMENTS.

PROCLAMATION OF THE SPANISH JUNTA.

Cádiz, July 12.

"CITIZENS OF CADIZ—Your wishes are now to be accomplished with those of all Spain. Your sacred rights, forgotten and nearly lost, will be restored by the Cortes to be convened in the following month. You are about to exercise the solemn functions of legislators, of which you have been deprived by tyranny, falsely called legitimate and sovereign authority. With difficulty we have arrested the sword of power, which has caused the evils that we deplore, to return to you your just claim to have independent representatives who shall watch over your happiness. The oppressor of human nature would not have advanced so far in his attempts at universal despotism, if the nation under his iron sway had known how to maintain the dignity of men and citizens, which knowledge constitutes the vigour and strength of Empires. History, citizens, has taught us by more than one example how much Spain has been indebted to that heroic fortitude, which, in our Cortes, has made Kings themselves amenable for the abuse of their power

Remember that Princes have sometimes treated you as if they had no duties, and you no rights, and as if the uttering of your complaints were a crime against the State.

"Commence then your duties in Spain, which is as free to you as it was to your ancestors. For this purpose employ the right of suffrage, which you enjoy by nature and by the constitution of your country; and let not intrigue and seduction surprise you in the very asylum of your liberty, dictating to you the selection which ought to be the unbiassed exercise of your will and pleasure. Favour, friendship, rank and property give no title, and it is not by men possessing these that the country is to be saved. Patriotism, talent, merit proved by experience—these it is, that should claim your attention. He who solicits your vote, and employs artifices to attract public approbation, estimates at a low rate the independence of a generous people, and ought to be marked by you as a suspicious character. True patriotism possesses too much genuine modesty to be the hero of its own story; and would rather convince you by deeds than words that it deserves your confidence.

"Neither ought you to forget that you are responsible to your children and posterity, for the faithful discharge of your duty on this occasion. Since the re-establishment of the Monarchy, you are perhaps the only Spaniards who have enjoyed so fair an opportunity to give permanence and solidity to civil institution. If, after two years of uncertainty and vacillation, when you have been so often brought to the edge of the precipice, you do not yet discover the origin of your calamities to consist in the imperfect representation of the national will, what will be the consequence? The government and all good citizens will lament your culpable blindness, and they will have at least the negative consolation of knowing that history will point you out as the destroyers of your family, and the assassins of your country.

"You cannot now justify yourselves, as at the commencement of the revolution, by the consternation into which the enemy threw the country, so that having no means of chusing and examining, you were given up to clamorous pretenders who availed themselves of the confusion, to domineer over you; nor can you vindicate yourselves by professing that you are the dupes of intrigue, as the painful experience of two years has taught you how to detect and despise it. You are now enabled to exercise calm reflection, and to overcome those influences which

designing men would dispense to deceive you.

"Recollect, that according as you act rightly or wrongly, you establish the honour or fix the disgrace of Spain—every thing depends upon the integrity of the members of the August assembly which is solemnly to declare the immutable principles of justice, and to consecrate before tyrants the hallowed rights of nations.

"This Superior Junta earnestly hopes, considering the importance of the business entrusted to you, and rigidly observing the rules prescribed to you for the election, you will prevent any corrupt interference, and you will preserve in your recollection, that if you are unfaithful, you will do all in your power to promote the eternal disgrace of your posterity.

"By order of the Superior Junta,

"LOUIS DE GARGOLLO, Sec.

"To Andres Lopez, President.

"*Cadiz, June 8, 1810.*"

SLAVE CAUSE.

PRIVY COUNCIL APPEALS.

On Saturday, the 28th of July, 1810, the lords commissioners of appeals in prize causes finished their sittings for the session; and previous to their adjournment they gave judgment in various received cases of great importance. One of them especially was of the greatest interest to the friends of liberty, and humanity, and its decision was such as will doubtless give great and equal satisfaction in this country and America.

CASE OF THE *AMÉLIE*—JAMES JOHNSON, MASTER.

This was a vessel under American colours with slaves from Africa, captured in December, 1807, in the West Indies, and carried into Tortola. The claimant pretended that she was bound to Charleston, South Carolina, where the importation of slaves continued to be lawful to the end of that year; but that having been detained on the coast, and there being no prospect of reaching Charleston before the 1st day of January, 1808, the period appointed for the cessation of the Slave Trade in every part of the United States, by a law of the General Congress, the Master of necessity bore away for the island of Cuba, there to wait directions from his owners.

It was contended, on the other hand, by the captor, that this statement was a mere pretence, and that, in truth, the original plan of the voyage was a destination to Cuba, which was unlawful under the American laws, long previous to their general abolition of the slave trade.

Admitting, however, the case so to be, it was strenuously contended for the

claimant, that a British court of prize had no right to take any cognizance of American municipal law, and that as no belligerent right of this country had been violated, the property ought to be restored to the neutral owner. A series of precedents seemed to support this doctrine.

The ship was condemned at Tortola, and the enslaved Africans were according to our abolition act, restored to their freedom; but the Claimant appealed, and the liberty of the Africans, as well as the property of the ships, depended on the issue of this appeal.

The case was solemnly argued in March last, and as, in the opinion of the court, it turned on the new question of the effect of the American and British abolition acts on this species of contraband commerce, when brought before a court of prize, the case, on account of its importance, has since stood over for judgment. Several other cases of American slave ships have also stood over, as depending on the same general question.

On the above day the judgment of the court was delivered by Sir Wm. Grant, the master of the rolls, nearly in the following terms:—

"This ship must be considered as being employed at the time of capture in carrying slaves from the coast of Africa to a Spanish Colony. We think that this was evidently the original plan and purpose of the voyage, notwithstanding the pretence set up to veil the true intention. The claimant, however, who is an American, complains of the capture, and demands from us the restitution of property of which he alleges that he has been unjustly dispossessed. In all the former cases of this kind, which have come before this court, the slave trade was liable to considerations very different from those which belong to it now. It had at that time been prohibited (as far as respected carrying slaves to the colonies of foreign nations) by America, but by our own laws it was still allowed. It appeared to us therefore, difficult to consider the prohibitory law of America, in any other light than as one of those municipal regulations of a foreign state of which this court could not take any cognizance. But by the alteration, which has since taken place, the question stands on different grounds, and is open to the application of very different principles. The slave trade has since been totally abolished by this country, and our legislature has pronounced it to be contrary to the principles of justice and humanity. Whatever we might think as individuals before, we could not, sitting as judges in a British court of justice, regard the trade in that light, while our own laws permitted it,—

But we can now assert that this trade cannot, abstractedly speaking, have a legitimate existence.

"When I say abstractedly speaking, I mean that this country has no right to control any foreign legislature that may think fit to dissent from this doctrine, and to permit to its own subjects the prosecution of this trade; but we have now a right to affirm that, *prima facie*, the trade is illegal, and thus to throw on claimants the burden of proof that, in respect of them, by the authority of their own laws, it is otherwise. As the case now stands, we think we are entitled to say, that a claimant can have no right upon principles of universal law to claim the restitution in a prize court of human beings carried as his slaves. He must show some right that has been violated by the capture, some property of which he has been dispossessed, and to which he ought to be restored. In this case the laws of the claimant's country allow of no right of property such as he claims. There can, therefore, be no right to restitution. The consequence is, that the judgment must be affirmed."

We congratulate the friends of the oppressed Africans on this important and most satisfactory judgment. It gives a death-blow to the most active contraband dealers in human blood on the coast of Africa, and removes one of the greatest obstacles to the effectual execution of our own laws, for the abolition of the slave trade; for, be it observed, that not the subjects of America only, but of Sweden, and, in short, of all states, which have not expressly legalized this trade, are equally affected by the operation of the principle laid down by the learned judge.

CAUSE OF THE FAILURES.

The facility that has been given to intemperate speculation is the source of the evil. In all periods of our history this has from time to time arisen, and has regularly produced the same effects. If in the year 1797, on the restriction of cash payments at the Bank, the Directors had acted (as they solemnly pledged themselves they would act) in their accustomed way, and still as if they were bound to pay in specie, the present calamity would not have come upon us. But unfortunately the thirst of profit on their parts, and the necessities of the government on the other, which induced ministers to sink at the enormity of the issues of paper, have fostered and encouraged this system to an extent which has brought the present misfortune upon us. But the mischief will cease when the cause of it comes to be thoroughly understood, and when it shall be seen that the remedy is simple and safe.

Our readers well know the causes of the convulsion which ended in the cash restriction bill. The unbounded drain for *subsidies*, followed by the alarm of invasion, which gave rise to the orders for taking an account of stock, as a previous measure to *driving* the counties—produced the restriction bill in 1797. At that time the bank reduced its paper to 8½ millions.—By the last returns, their notes in circulation amount to 21 millions! and it is manifest that the paper of the provincial banks has increased in the same proportion.—The natural consequence of this has been, that the facility of credit has raised up a set of adventurers, in opposition to the real merchants, who, instead of supplying the actual necessities of the world, have pushed an artificial trade of mere adventure, to every corner of the inhabited earth, and to *force* commerce beyond its natural limits, facilities have been given in a way heretofore unknown. Middle men of a new description have started up, and the fair useful trade of banking has been converted into an instrument of gross and pernicious delusion. We have promised to illustrate this matter.

A house, with a sounding firm, charters a ship for South America. They inform the manufacturers that they perfectly know what will answer the market, and if they have any old fashioned cottons, or any old shopkeepers, they may take the opportunity of making a consignment, allowing them a small commission, freight, &c. and they may have an immense profit both on the goods out, and on the return goods home. They may draw on them for the amount, at 12, 18, and 24 months. And they inform them, that there are several houses of the first respectability in London, who on the deposit of those long bills will allow their country banker to draw on them at two months, on a new commission of ten shillings per cent. and that these short bills may be renewed till the returns come. The manufacturer or shopkeeper is delighted with a proposal, by which he is to empty his warehouse or shop for every thing unsaleable, and to be put into immediate possession of paper money, by which he may set all his looms and artisans to work, and refurnish his magazine with an entire new stock. He makes up his packages, charges, however, his goods at double their real value, that they may not be undervalued when they reach their market, and thus he very kindly begins by assisting to cheat himself. The vessel reaches the port; when, lo! the goods are not wanted. The market is already over-stocked. But, rather than return without breaking bulk, the supercargo takes what he can get—half the price charged in the invoice; but still

he begs himself that that is something, as the woods would not have sold at all in London. The next thing is to buy a consignment in return; but he finds that, from the number of buyers, the skins, the tallow, the hemp, &c. have risen to double their real value. No matter, they must do something; and a cargo is brought home. Here again the market is overstocked, and necessity obliges them to sell it at a loss, and by this time the long bills become due, and the whole produce is not within thirty per cent of the principal; in the mean time, however, the manufactures of the country have been quickened; the exports and imports have been swelled, and a great increase has been experienced in the revenue which the minister states with exultation to Parliament; and holds up as a proof that all the tyrannical efforts of Bonaparte cannot keep down the spirit of trade.

It is perfectly clear that speculation carried to this excess must end in disappointment; and though the consequences will be severely felt for the moment by the numerous classes who have been drawn within the vortex of this revolutionary system, yet certainly it is for the permanent interests of the realm that it should be brought to a stand; that trade should return to its ancient course, and that it should be regulated by the natural, not the forced demands of the world. In the bursting of this bubble, neither the original adventurer who explored distant markets, nor the confiding manufacturer who sent his goods on such a voyage of discovery, nor the discounting banker who lent his name to the bills for a commission, are to be pitied. The person who is the least deserving of commiseration, is the last. Nothing can be more mischievous than a speculation of this kind by a banker, who holds deposits of cash in his hands, and who risks the very subsistence of his customers by this kind of traffic. The whole of this complicated machine derives its movement by this facility of credit. A banking house with a floating sum of actual deposits in their hands of 4 or 500,000*l.* not content with using this sum as they might safely do in the discount of short paper, permit houses at Liverpool and elsewhere to draw upon them for hundreds of thousands, without the slightest basis; and when the shock comes, the actual deposits of their *bona fide* customers become the sacrifice.

ANALYSIS OF THE REPORT OF THE BULLION COMMITTEE.

The report is written with great ability and caution; indeed, with so much of the latter ingredient, that the committee have avoided to make any inferences which result from the evidence printed in the appendix. Apparently they are unwilling

indignation should be excited too strongly against paper currency, and the bank which issue it. But the public will, no doubt, perceive that the evil they suffer does not justify hatred of the individuals who have done nothing illegal or improper. The imprudent law which restricted the the bank from gold payment is solely to blame, and to the repeal of that law only, all efforts should be directed as far as prudence may advise.

The bullion committee first inquire into the price of bullion, and find that a guinea is worth about 23*s.* of paper-money, and this degree of depreciation of paper-currency is confirmed by the rate of foreign exchanges, which are from 15 to 20 per cent. against England, though the real exchange would at present otherwise be in her favour.

It results from this unnatural state of things, that while a good guinea can only be current for 21*s.* the same guinea melted or mutilated is worth 23*s.*; and that a guinea too light to pass in currency, acquires value by its deficiency, and is actually worth about 22*s.*—It is impossible, therefore, that any gold coin should remain in currency and the result is clear, that the public lose about 2*s.* in a guinea on their income and expenditure; in other words, that the substitution of paper-currency for gold is nearly double the evil of the income tax, and consequently costs the public about twenty millions a year.

The committee in their report have given credit to the bank directors examined by them, for an incredible degree of alleged ignorance of this inevitable effect of issuing bank notes indefinitely, and even complacent them on their forbearance in not pushing a greater quantity into circulation. The fact seems to be, that the stoppage of payment in 1797 was occasioned by no fault of the bank of England, but by a concurrence of untoward accidents; but that the continuance of that stoppage has been caused by the natural disinclination of the bank to obviate what they found so profitable, is undeniable. However, it is really a questionable point of casuistry, whether a bank director, entrusted with the interest of so large a body of constituents, could with propriety strive against their interest so manifestly as to remedy a public misfortune indeed, but one which produces little less to that opulent company than 500,000*l.* per annum. Hence their various disguises in sharing their augmented profit, and the enormous rise in the value of bank stock.

It is plain that the above statement of their increase of annual profit is deduced from the amount of their notes at present current, being about ten millions more than at the time of the stoppage of actual payment on demand.

proved by the committee to be greatly dependant on the quantity of bank of England notes, in which they are payable. One of the witnesses estimates these country notes at twelve millions, but they are probably rather more than thirty millions, as the gold coin in circulation used to be estimated at that sum, when there were only ten millions of bank of England notes, making the then circulation forty millions, besides country notes, at that time, perhaps five millions. Forty-five millions must have been augmented to fifty-four millions, to produce a devaluation of 20 per cent. as at present, whereby the country bank-notes appear to amount to about thirty-four millions, the bank of England notes being twenty millions in circulation; herein supporting the argument rapidity of pecuniary transactions to balance the great quantity of them, and that the same amount of circulating medium is now necessary as in 1797.

Supposing the bank of England to gain 10,000*l.* and the country bankers 500,000 per annum, by the extraordinary and artificial circulation of paper-money, it is a curious instance of vast increase produced by a small comparative debt. If one man robs another, the robber gains what the other loses; but the present depreciation of the national currency, twenty millions per annum is lost by the public, and only two millions gained by the bankers. So dangerous is it to tamper ignorantly with our paper-money.

Under the glaring and increasing injustice to the public above described, no act can remain respecting the conduct of the legislature in recurring as

speedily as possible to the old fashion of exacting an actual value for paper currency; but it is to be observed in favour of government that to the close of 1808, gold was not decidedly depreciated, at least not above 6*d.* in a guinea, but so soon as the depreciation became decided and unquestionable, all gold disappeared of course, and country bankers increased their number as well as their notes to fill up the vacancy. The number of country bankers in 1797 was 230; now it is about 721, of whom 121 have sprung up in the last year.

The committee have forbore to place in the ridiculous view it deserves, the actual building of a new and extensive Mint, on Tower-hill, when it is manifest that no gold or silver coin of mint weight can possibly be current. In the close of the report, powerful motives are ably urged, founded on the virtual breach of all bargains of any duration, and on the injustice of ruining the public creditor, and all other annuitants.

They express an opinion "that the integrity and honour of parliament are concerned not to authorize longer than is required by imperious necessity the continuance of a system of circulation, in which that natural check is absent which secures the substantial justice and faith of moneyed contracts and obligations between man and man."

They then recommend the repeal of the restriction law after two years' notice, in which time they think warning enough will have been given to the bank and other bankers, gradually to lessen their paper issues, or to retire from the trade with the gain they have already acquired.

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

TALK OF THE BELFAST WEEKLY, OR SUNDAY SCHOOL.

In offering to the Public their annual statement and address, the Committee and Teachers of the Sunday School beg leave to state, that nothing but the inadequacy of their funds, with the high price of timber in the spring of 1809, prevented them then commencing the building of an appropriate School-house on the ground they have obtained for that purpose. They however flatter themselves that much time has not been lost, as in the interim they have acquired considerable degree of information on the subject of an approved plan on which such a building should be erected. Having an earnest desire to introduce into this town the Lancasterian mode of teaching; and extending their views, weekly, to a daily free school, they

have had some communications with Mr. Lancaster on that subject, who has with that politeness and liberality for which he is so highly distinguished, given every information required of him, and has also promised to give all the further assistance in his power towards carrying into effect so desirable a project.

The committee and teachers have therefore resolved, that should they be supported by the public, they will endeavour as soon as in their power, to introduce a system of teaching generally approved of, and which has been found to be productive of so many advantages to society.

In carrying this measure into effect, they have been advised by those conversant with the subject, to beware of commencing on a contracted scale. On the most mature deliberation, therefore, they have

agreed that a house should be built capable of accommodating five hundred pupils at least; and on such a plan, that should a further addition be found necessary at a future period, such enlargement might be made without disturbing the economy of the whole, or any part of it.

Judging of the future by the past, the committee and teachers feel confident that the enlightened and liberal minded will give them such further pecuniary assistance as may be necessary to their purpose;—and with such support, they entertain not the smallest doubt that they will be fully enabled to finish a house adequate to the end in view, and also to succeed in establishing, in addition to the Sunday school (of which they are determined never to lose sight) a daily free school on the plan of the philanthropic Lancaster.

From the precarious tenure by which the present school-room is held, a house is immediately necessary, and a considerable reduction having taken place in the price of timber, they have been induced to commence the building of a house one hundred feet long, thirty-two feet wide, and two stories high, which they sincerely hope they will be enabled to finish this year.

The committee and teachers respectfully submit to the public, that the Lancastrian mode of teaching being carried on at an expense so exceedingly small, they hope when they have the building erected, and the establishment properly set on foot, so little will be required for its future support, that but a very trifling annual aid from the subscribers will be necessary. On this principle, therefore, they presume to expect that the friends to this useful undertaking, will be so liberal in their donations, in the present instance, as to enable the managers to carry the measure fully into effect.

In the course of the communications with persons in London, on this interesting subject, a letter* from a gentleman there, to a member of the committee, has been laid before the committee and teachers, from which they have derived considerable information.....and conceiving that this letter which does honour to the head and heart of the writer, might not only be gratifying to the public, but also throw light on the Lancastrian system of education, and, being in a great measure explanatory of their views, they have requested of the editors of the newspapers to give it publicity, with which they have obligingly complied, it being now before the public in the Belfast News-Letter of 10, and the Belfast Commer-

cial Chronicle of 11th inst....and also hope that the proprietors of the Belfast Magazine will give it a place.

A CORRECT list of the encouragers of this laudable undertaking shall be published on the 1st of January next.

Income and Expenditure of the Sunday School from 1st May 1809 till 1st May 1810.

| | |
|------------------------|-----------|
| Rent | £20 0 0 |
| Books, Stationary, &c. | 16 15 2 |
| Balance 1st May, 1810 | 483 14 7½ |

£520 9 9½

| | |
|----------------------------|----------|
| Balance in hands May, 1809 | 401 7 8½ |
| Subscriptions received | 94 15 1 |
| Interest | 24 7 0 |

£520 9 9½

On the list as attending Scholars, 1st. May, 1810.

Females, 65...Males, 171...Total, 236.

On the list for admission, 208....Admitted since the commencement, 985....Admitted from May 1809, till May 1810, 125.

The following persons are appointed to collect subscriptions for the present year: *Luke Teeling.....James M'Adam.....David Bigger...Thomas M'Cabe.....*who hope that such persons as they may happen to omit calling on, and are willing to aid the institution, will be so good as to send their contributions to any of them.

Nothing surely can be more grateful to a benevolent heart than the power and opportunity of doing good; nor can any thing be more worthily held up to public view, than an act which alleviates the oppression of a fellow-creature. To relieve the needy is often *hackneyed-charity*, as the means may be so conveniently attained as to give little trouble to the contributor, and in common cases it never happens, that the headstrong current of *self-interest* is to be opposed. It is fair to allow every useful action its due weight in the scale of human virtue; and at the present period, when the income of the tradesman is but a scanty allowance for a family use, when the farmer himself feels the general scarcity of money, and when influence has fled from many of its former splendid habitations, every individual ought to be alive to the curtailment of *personal expense*, and the saving principle ought to be extended to as wide a compass as influence will admit. It is with pleasure we observe, in a late newspaper, an instance of *zealous exertion* on the part of an individual towards an industrious peasantry near Ballymena, in materially liquidating an enormous sum exacted for insurance against militia. Such spirited interference speaks strongly for goodness of heart and strength of mind in its hero.

* This letter, being considered a valuable communication, we intend giving it a place among the original communications in our next number.

and as the cause is of such general import, it is hoped the example will stimulate others to similar disinterested measures. "Qui prodest populo, Deo pareat." It is pleasing to notice the unanimity of an

extensive tract of country in publicly returning thanks to the deserved object of their gratitude, accompanied with a pledge of their feelings which will last for ages.

AGRICULTURAL REPORT,

From July 20, till August 20.

THE weather has for several weeks past continued cold and wet, and very unfavourable for saving the late crops of hay; had the corn crops been as luxuriant as they sometimes are, they would have suffered much by the late heavy rains, but except in some particular districts where the land is rich, or has been highly manured, the oats are short and thin, and in the thin light soils, which constitute a considerable part of the tillage lands of this country, will turn out unproductive; indeed it is not reasonable to expect good crops where the lands are suffered to be over-run with that destructive weed, wild marygold, commonly called gowan, and the occupiers of such soils have themselves to blame for the loss they sustain by their unaccountable negligence, in allowing it to grow up to maturity among their potatoe crops, where it sheds its seed, and multiplies beyond all calculation; were they at sufficient pains to destroy it for a few years, they would exterminate its breed, and secure themselves against an annual loss which the saving of the labour and expence required to destroy, can never compensate.

In many parts of the country the farmers continue to complain of the blast or smut in their wheat crops; but it is hoped the malady is not general.

Barley is generally estimated a good crop in this province, and flax has seldom been known a more abundant one. The growers of it appear to have entered pretty fully into the plan of saving seed and there is good grounds for hoping that the practice will become so general, that we shall in a few years, find ourselves nearly, if not altogether, independent on foreign countries for flax-seed.

The Potatoe crops, which some weeks ago, appeared weak and unpromising, have revived much, and there is now a prospect of a plentiful supply of that nutritious root, on which the inhabitants of this country are so dependant.

The grazing grounds have never fully recovered from the effect of the dry parching weather of spring, and the meadows in general have been so deficient of their usual crop, that hay is now selling at a price uncommonly high; and is expected to be extremely scarce next spring.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

THE difficulties of the trading world are not yet at an end, nor is there any probability of their speedy termination. That the present distressing and disjunct state of commerce proceeds from the war is very easily demonstrated. Whether we attribute the causes of the bankruptcies to speculation, to the weight of taxation, or to the too great quantity of paper in circulation, or to all these causes conjointly, they, each, and every one of them, may be ultimately traced to the war, as to one general source. Among the documents at page 157, will be found some interesting information on those subjects, extracted from the Morning Chronicle to which we refer our readers, who may be desirous of further information.

The restriction on the national banks of England and Ireland not to pay in specie, as by the acts of 1797, carries very much the appearance of the first stage of national bankruptcy. Paper could then only be exchanged for paper, and the necessity for providing gold being removed, the issues of the national banks became greatly extended in the first instance, and were quickly followed by like extensive issues of the private banks. Rash speculations were encouraged by this excess of paper, and by the facility of procuring discounts in which paper only was received for paper. Competition was unduly stimulated both at home and abroad, so that a loss has been latterly mostly sustained both on our imports and exports, while the editors of ministerial newspapers mock our distress, by giving pompous accounts of our trade from custom-house returns, without taking the pains to inquire whether the article sent out, or those received in return meet a profitable market. Such an investigation would not suit their purpose of deceiving the people into a belief of the day-dream of security and prosperity. But the plain unvarnished, undisguised fact is, that the present "war of elements,

and crash in the mercantile world," has been proximately occasioned by a general loss for twelve or fifteen months past, on almost all articles of imports and exports, partly occasioned by competition at foreign markets to force a trade, and in some degree to counteract the pernicious effects of the present belligerent system, as well as by the very high freights paid to guard against the risque of the contraband trade, which nations were forced to carry on, to keep clear of the hostile decrees and orders of each other. To these causes may be added a loss on many articles of manufacture, and the re-action of the bankruptcy of some on others through the various ramifications by which traders are so intimately connected. Thus great changes have suddenly been made in properties, and former stability in some cases forms no security for escape from the present convulsion, in those times which are so peculiarly precarious. The remote causes of the distress lie in wild speculation, in the too great circulation of paper, unbottomed on payments in specie, and to go still farther back to the origin of all these evils, THE WAR.

It appears by a letter from Buenos Ayres, published in the papers, that the loss on goods forced out into that market was from 30 to 40 per cent. A particular instance is also given of 508 pieces of fine printed cottons, of 28 yards each, being sold at thirty-six shillings per piece, after paying there a duty of nine-pence per yard, or twenty-one shillings per piece. At Heligoland, our merchants are said to have property unsaleable, and in a losing state, to the amount of seven millions: at Gibraltar fifteen: at Malta twenty-five, and in South America an unknown and incalculable sum. The embarrassments were occasioned by French policy, and the injudicious efficacy afforded to it by the British orders in council. All regular and profitable trade was cut off, and the mania of speculation to any place, and every place the result of despair to find a market became the ruling passion of the day. If Bonaparte has changed his system in some little degree, and permits the importation of colonial produce through neutrals at most heavy duties, there is small room to entertain flattering hopes on this account, or to expect in consequence any permanent improvement to our trade.

Speculation and paper money have had most injurious effects on our trade. The bubble has burst. The wind which for a time, agitated and kept up this unsubstantial show has shifted. Much pains were taken to lull the people into security, but one dream is over, probably however to be succeeded by another equally as deceptive. In the words of the lullaby,

"When the wind blew, the cradle did rock,"
but hereafter a worse fate may betide,

"When the bough bends, the cradle will fall,

"And down tumble baby, and cradle and all."

It is impossible not to have portentous forebodings of the termination of the present alarming crisis.

The war has superinduced a most oppressive weight of taxation, and increased the inequality between domestic expenditure rapidly growing greater, and income as rapidly diminishing from the effects of bad trade. Perhaps the most unfavourable symptom of the whole is, that the people are not generally convinced of the necessity for peace: and they, who are so infatuated, as not to know they have a disease, are not likely to look for a cure. The general cry is, there can be no peace with France. This has been continually re-echoed since 1793. Every year has added to our danger, and there is no probability that protracted warfare will give in time to come any additional security, or diminish the disadvantages of our situation, which have during every year of the war increased. Peace is absolutely necessary to the safety of those countries, and peace ought to be the general cry. If the people wish their rulers to give them peace, they should do their own parts, and let the general expression of the public sentiment be made known. Governments are generally desirous of war, and seldom make peace until they are forced by the voice of the people.

De Yonge the Jew broker who was prosecuted by the treasury for selling guineas at more than the legal value has been found guilty on an old statute of Edward VI. Objections were made that the statute contemplated a state of things different from the present, relating only to the exchange of one species of coin for another, and not of coin for paper. Lord Ellenborough over-ruled the objections, but they are to be re-argued on a motion for a new trial. Such a traffic in guineas is the unavoidable result of the present state of the circulating medium, while gold must be had to answer the state of our trade on the continent. If such a trade in buying and selling guineas must exist, it is certainly preferable to have it open and avowed. If it is carried on clandestinely it is less fair both for buyer and seller. On the Change of Belfast it has long been a public trade to sell bank notes for guineas, and the difference between

that mode, and the act for which De Yonge has been found guilty differs only in the manner of denominating the transaction. The proceedings in England cannot stop the traffic. They may give to the trade all the evils and inconveniences of being contraband, but it will go on, and will increase till the banks are compellable to pay in guineas.

It is pleasing to observe among our exports, Irish cotton yarn sent to England. It is an advantageous circumstance to Irish spinning factories, and may afford a market for the superfluous yarn which our own manufacture in its present depressed state cannot work up. The hardships arising to muslin weavers from the low state of that manufacture is likely to be still farther increased by their own injudicious conduct. Many employers have stopped giving out work, and others have agreed with weavers at prices below the stipulated rates of the trade. The weavers are in many places forcing those who took work on such terms to return it. It would be much better to let every one make his own bargain, and work for such terms as he could procure. Thus the trade would regulate itself in proportion to greater or less demand. Now, if a man cannot get high wages, and the present state of the manufacture will not afford them; he is to be idle, lessen his already diminished means, and injure his morals by the evils of combination. The workmen employed in calico printing near Dublin, appear to be following a similar injudicious plan, and throwing themselves out of employment by a dispute with the owners of print yards. They thus unwisely add to their distress in the present season of difficulty.

Bonaparte by one of those strokes of policy which appear congenial to his dispositions has been the first to make concessions to the Americans. It was wonderful he was so long in taking this step, but in this case he appears to have hoped to bully the Americans, from an opinion of their weakness, but being disappointed he now makes tardy concessions, in which however he is beforehand with the British government, and revokes the decrees of Berlin and Milan, from the 1st of November next, "provided the English shall revoke their orders in council, and renounce the principles of blockade, which they have attempted to establish, or, that the United States, conformably to their act, shall cause their rights to be respected by the English." In the mean time the sequestration of American vessels in France is likely to be given up. He thus artfully throws the odium of continuing these decrees on England—and by this means a new epoch is formed in the commercial war. France is now the highest bidder for the friendship of the United States, and it is reasonable to fear there will not be sufficient policy in the British councils to concede timely, or with a good grace, and in consequence America may be thrown into the arms of France. During the interval of hostility towards France in the minds of Americans, the British administration appear to have trifled away the opportunity of conciliating by dignified concession, and failed of making a proper use of the occasion. When the new decision arrives at the other side of the Atlantic, we may anticipate a turn of the tide, and a renewal of hostility towards England, which only the greater dread of France appears to have abated.

Intercourse is kept up between the Continent and these countries by means of licences granted by the respective governments under the mask of neutral vessels; and the merchants in London are at present engaged in a negotiation with the French chamber of commerce to extend this trade. These licences are granted by the privy council, and are said to be openly hawked for sale through the Continent, by Jew brokers and others. By this system, emolument accrues to the officers through whose hands these licences pass, and the overgrown patronage of office is still further increased. In spite of the pride of the respective governments this plan of licences may be considered as a tacit concession on their parts to the necessities of commerce, and that their hostile decrees and orders in council are mutually injurious to both countries. It would be more manly and dignified at once to do away those measures of hostility, than through a false pride, and an absurd obstinacy keep up, in form, regulations, while they admit their impolicy and futility. It is curious to see a trade formally forbidden, and yet continued by the connivance of those who issue their orders against it.

Exchange on London has latterly risen from 8½ to 9 per cent, and the discount on bank notes 2 to 2½ per cent.

When the editors of any contemporary prints think this commercial report or any other part of our Magazine deserving of further circulation in their pages, they are heartily welcome to make such use of it, and there is a gratification to us in its more extensive dissemination. But the record should not be vitiated by giving garbled extracts to suit the timidity or sycophancy of editors afraid to give publicity to strong truths. The writer of this report shrinks from the polluted touch of time-servers, and requests that in future the report may be published entire, or wholly omitted. An extract may be

given in such a manner, as not to communicate a fair sample of the writer's views. He dislikes to be cut down to suit the puny policy of another.

CELESTIAL PHENOMENA.

FOR SEPTEMBER. 1810

On the 4th the Moon is seen to have passed through the space between the two first stars of the Balance, the first being below, and the second above her, and she appears directing her course to the third. To the east of her we shall observe Saturn and Antares, and to the west Venus, and the first of the Virgin.

10th, She is on the meridian at 52 min. past nine, the second of the Water-bearer, being above her to the east, and the two first stars of the Goat below her to the west. At nine she is 38½ min. from the first of Pegasus.

15th, The moon is at first seen below the three first stars of the Ram, and almost in a line with the second and third. As she ascends in the heavens, we note her motion under these stars, and distinguish below her Menkar, with the small stars in the head of the Whale; she is directing her course to Aldebaran and the Hyades near which stars is Jupiter.

20th, She is seen nearly in a line between the sixth of the Bull, and third of the Twin, but nearest the latter star.

25th, She is followed soon after her rising by the first of the Lion and Mars, and on the following day those stars will be seen above her.

28th, On this day is new moon, and an eclipse of the sun, but invisible to us. It is central, in longitude 72° 19' west, and latitude 6° 7' south. The Moon passes the ecliptic this day in the evening in her ascending node, and it is new moon at 23 min. past four afternoon.

Mercury is an evening star during the whole of this month, and is at his greatest elongation on the 22d, but he is so near the horizon at sun-set, that he will be seen but by few. The Moon passes him on the 30th.

Venus is an evening star during this month, but not in a very favourable situation to be observed long after sun-set. She is south of the ecliptic, and is increasing her distance from it in that direction very rapidly. The moon passes her on the 2d.

Mars is a morning star, and his duration above the horizon before sun-rise is about two hours and a quarter. His motion is direct through 19 degrees, being on the 1st, nearly in the middle of the Barren, between the Crab and the Lion, and he is directing his course to the first of the latter constellation, which he reaches on the 20th, when the star is to the south of him at the distance of 47'. The Moon passes him on the 25th.

Jupiter passes the meridian at about a quarter past five in the morning of the 1st, a quarter past four on the morning of the 19th, and as his stay above our horizon is very considerable, he will afford very fair opportunities of observing him in the night, his motion till the 21st, at which time he is stationary, and, of course, after that time retrograde; at the stationary point he is in a line between the Pleiades and the Aldebaran, but nearest to the latter star. As the Moon passes him on the 18th, when the remarkable occultation of Aldebaran takes place, and he is then above her, the least attentive observer of the heavens will, if the evening be fine, distinguish this planet and every future evening will show him to greater advantage than the preceding.

Saturn is in the meridian on the 1st, at 50 min. past five afternoon, and on the 19th at 49 min. past four, consequently the opportunities of observing decrease every evening. The Moon passes him on the 6th.

Herschell is on the meridian on the 1st, at 55 min. past three afternoon, and on the 21st at 47 min. past two. Opportunities of observing him, therefore decrease every evening, but we shall have no difficulty in finding him, if we direct our view to the first star of the Balance to which he is making slow approaches every day, and he is to the west of this star during the month. The Moon passes him on the 4th.

In order to admit articles which could not properly be deferred to the succeeding number, the Eclipses of Jupiter's Satellites is omitted this month.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Lucy and Emma, a Tale; and the Servant, shall be inserted in our next.

Advice to a young Physician; a constant Reader on Pedantry; E. C. on Conversation; Stanza on a young Lady by M'Erin; the compassionate Schoolboy; verses on the imprisonment of Sir Francis Buidett, and S. B. M's rhymes, with other favours have been received, and shall be submitted to the proprietors.

Verses Signed A. have been mislaid—the author is requested to send another copy.

In consequence of the Naturalist and Meteorological Reporter being abroad they are omit-

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[Vol. 5.]

COMMUNICATIONS, ORIGINAL AND SELECTED.

To the Proprietors of the Belfast Magazine.

I send you a Portrait of the Earl of Clare, which appeared some years ago, in one of the diurnal publications, and your Readers will judge whether it has yet lost its vivid colouring. It certainly deserves re-publication.

I am, Gentlemen; your's &c. M.

THE grave, which closes on the dead, gives to History the character of the departed, but the presence which imposed and the manner which awed, avail but little in framing those records, in which posterity will search for objects of reproof, or for models of imitation. The praise of history is fame, and that praise may be the last wish of the vain, the ambitious, or the proud. But it is not the pomp of place, the love of domination; and the pertinacious maintenance of every system and every policy, which could indulge the ruling passion for power, that can embalm the vulgar great man, and bid him live to future ages. The spell is over. The magic vision is dissolved, and he who yesterday heard the pæans of applause, is to day but the unconscious subject of the philosopher's reflection. The bare and naked mortal, whose wisdom or weakness, virtue or vice must determine what place (if any) he is to hold in the good will of mankind.

Of those whose situation and character have had a prevailing influence on the affairs of this nation, the late EARL OF CLARE must be considered as one of the most conspicuous, and if bigotry held the pencil, and prerogative the pallet, the portrait of this nobleman would want none of those ornaments which mere zeal could bestow.

Heir to a liberal fortune, the Earl of Clare commenced his career with more

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adventitious than natural assistance. Nor was it until the anxious eye of a father had discovered the germ of ambition, and opened it to the fostering breath of authority, that this nobleman prevailed on himself to exchange the vulgar levities of phaetons and horses, for the diligent practice of the law, and its emoluments. His ambition made him industrious, and the aid of his father, who was an eminent barrister, was serviceable to his reputation as well as his income.

The season was favourable to the promotion of such a man, and a seat in parliament opened the vista to the higher preferments. His mind was unexpanded by science, or softened by the more elegant culture of letters. He was less profound in the principles, than expert in the practice of the law. A coarseness of intellect, long and frequently exercised on a topic or two, was easily mistaken for vigour; and a confidence, from being unused to metaphysical reflexion, or to any other exercise of the understanding than upon a professional or political subject, passed for that promptitude and force of decision which is the result of an intuitive perception of the mind's object. It was his boast that since he addicted himself to the study of the law, he never opened any other than a professional book. To boast of so discreditable a forbearance is very characteristic of the man.

His complexional peculiarities, and the habits which grew out of them, rendered him irritable, impatient, and overbearing, and the weakness of his constitution mingled itself not infrequently with the exercise of his public duties. He would sometimes forget the dignity of place, and the gravity of authority to indulge himself in a vein of petulance, and in such a mood he would condescend to

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adopt the phraseology of the street. He had no dissimulation, and but little pliancy; he was sour and sincere; and, indeed, if his progress through life had depended on the occasional adaptation of himself to the humours of others, his friends and his enemies would be fewer than they are, as his obscurity would have been so much greater. He was a man, who might impose by his earnestness, and bear away with him a light unbalanced mind, but he never could persuade by patient plausibility, by the felicity of address, or by any of the softer arts of life.

On the judgment seat, his integrity stands unimpeached, although many of his decrees have been questioned and some successfully disputed, but of the wisest judge that ever lived, the latter may be said, though that praise, which is his own, cannot be bestowed in the same unmeasured and general manner. His faculty lay in a quick discernment; and the utility of it, in a familiar acquaintance with the modes of common life, and particularly, with such of our habits, as are more especially national than others. That misdirected subtlety which ages of oppression and poverty have engendered, and which is so peculiarly characteristic of the humbler litigants of this country, he was well able to deal with. The practice of his court he improved by his exactness, and its regularity by the celerity with which its business was transacted, although he sometimes seemed to value himself not much less on a quick dispatch of the cause than on the merit of the decree. He awed and chastised those pernicious though formidable people, who sometimes discredit the respectable profession of an attorney; of the legal knave he was unsparing; but he punished and he favoured with equal zeal. "The chancellor's favourite" is a phrase not without meaning in the hall of the Four Courts.

In the senate, he had none of these commanding gifts which enable men to take a mastery in public debate. He was voluble, but not eloquent. Many shrewd and homely sarcasms of his are remembered, but not one beautiful saying, or profound reflexion.

His acquirements were few. He was not intelligent nor enlightened beyond his profession. He was the mere lawyer; in every thing technical and teasing. Enlarged and statesmanlike views of policy were extended beyond his comprehension. He saw a portion of every subject, but nothing entire. The castle he understood well: IRELAND not at all, and he always preferred a party to the public. His speeches contain a little history, and a deal of invective. They are little better than libels on the country. All that should be consigned to oblivion he raked up, with offensive labour, and he could better recite those disgusting parts of our history, than reason upon them, with the skill of a statesman, or the liberality of a philosopher. In debate we cannot compliment his candour. He attacked those with virulence who had no opportunity of defending themselves, and where he could not be interrupted, his obloquy flowed, unembarrassed by temper or scruples. When he was most peevish, some most admired his firmness, as it was called, and when he was most splenetic, many of his adherents, with similar accuracy, thought him most wise. He was seldom calm, temperate and dignified, very often vehement, acrimonious, and personal. He always spoke after that peremptory manner, which a certainty of success naturally occasions, and he was more anxious to give his opponents a *good dressing* as it used to be called in the parliamentary phrase, than to recommend public measures by their tendency to service, or individual adherence by seeming principle. The distempered state of the modern world he knew not how to appreciate. His prejudice usurped the dominion which his philosophy should have held. He would have whipped the world back into its old state, and he would have whipt in vain.

If there be a merit* in the con-

* The late Mr. Daly having heard Mr. Fitzgibbon pledge himself to eternal hostility against an incorporating union, immediately predicted of him, that if that measure was ever propounded, he would be among the most animated supporters of it.

sistency of public principle, to that he has no claim. He was steady only on the score of his prejudices, which were ardent and intolerant, and determined the course of his political life. He was an enemy to religious freedom, and the friend of that exclusive and oppressive system, which has stood in the way of the national redemption from divisions, dissensions, dishonour, and disgrace. He was one of those who thought that a conciliatory temper in the administration of the government, was an indication of cowardice, and he judged of the state, as he would do of an individual. His panegyrists must be found among his own party; the challengers of his fame among the wise, and patriotic of his countrymen. The man of morals will not exult in the page which records him, but the meek and pensive charity of the christian will forgive him. The scholar, and the patriot, the statesman, and the philosopher, WILL EMULOUSLY DISOWN HIM.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

IT is an act of literary justice that every author should have the credit of his own writings, and his fame not to be injured by their being appropriated to another. I have frequently met with the assertion that the Parable on Toleration was written by Dr. Franklin, and it has been so printed in a late edition of his works. But I find in a late Monthly Review that this beautiful apologue was written by Dr. Jeremy Taylor, who was bishop of Down and Connor, and died at Lisnegarvey, since denominated Lisburn, in 1667; and that it is in the latter part of his essay "On the Liberty of Prophecy." The excellent moral contained in it, may be a sufficient motive for copying it into your pages. It may possibly be new to some readers, and it is sufficiently excellent to bear frequent repetition.

"When Abraham sat at his tent door, according to his custom, waiting to entertain strangers, he espied an old man stooping and leaning on his staff, weary with age and travel, coming towards him, who was one hundred years of age; he received

him kindly, washed his feet, provided supper, caused him to sit down, but observing that the old man eat and prayed not, nor begged for a blessing on his meat, he asked him why he did not worship the God of Heaven? The old man told him that he worshipped the fire only; and acknowledged no other God. At which answer, Abraham grew so zealously angry that he thrust the old man out of his tent, and exposed him to all the evils of the night, and an unguarded condition. When the old man was gone, God called to Abraham and asked him where the stranger was. He replied, "I thrust him away because he did not worship thee." God answered him, "I have suffered him these hundred years, although he dishonoured me; and couldst not thou endure him one night, when he gave thee no trouble?" Upon this, Abraham fetched him back again, and gave him hospitable entertainment, and wise instruction. "Go thou," says the pious bishop, and go thou says the writer of his life, to every christian of every denomination, "and do likewise, and thy charity will be rewarded by the God of Abraham."

This good bishop lived in tempestuous times of persecution. He had suffered himself, and feelingly knew the evils of oppression.

Permit me to observe, that in a late magazine, in a paper, being a translation from the French, taken from Nicholson's Philosophical Journal on the quick perception of animals of the state of the weather, I observed the word **presentation*, used in an uncommon sense, partaking much of the Gallic idiom, and which could only be intelligible by placing a strong accent on the second syllable. On looking at Johnson's dictionary, I find he says this word in this sense is misprinted for *presension*.

Care ought to be taken to avoid the use of expressions in translations not admitted by good authority into the English language. Swift long ago complained "there was a danger of the license of translators inducing us to habble a dialect of French." The

* This remark is not quite correct, the word is *T's*, manuscript was that stated here, but the Editor changed it to *presension* (the word in the letter press) for the very reasons mentioned.

danger is not lessened in the present age. A CRITIC.

To the Proprietors of the Belfast Magazine.

GENTLEMEN,

A MINUTE Critic in your last number, when speaking of the costume of the Irish Chieftain in delivering the Prologue, wishes to be informed how he disposed of his half boots and saffron sleeves, as his legs and arms were *bare*. All that need be said in reply, is, that the short boots edged with fur, came scarcely above his ancles, and his legs were bare; and that the saffron sleeves were tucked above his elbows, so that his arms (or at least his fore-arms, if the critic be an anatomist) were also bare. In short the Irish Chieftain was represented, like most of his countrymen at that time, and ever since that time, as being (proh pudor!) without shirt or stockings. Will this explanation serve to satisfy this critic animalcule, who is only known by the initials of his name S. N.?

There is a sort of spume or froth,
Which hangs on plants of summer growth;
The froth without, so light and thin,
Hides a poor nameless fly within;
You've hit this critic to a tittle;
'Tis nothing else than Cuckoo Spittle.

I AM YOUR'S, &c. X.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

CALCULATIONS OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

THE difference in weights and measures, and the different denominations of them are frequently perplexing in the calculations of commerce. They also render it more difficult to compute the relative prices of grain in different countries. One use of a *magazine*, is to lay up, as in a store-house for future reference, such memorandums as are liable otherwise to escape the memory. Accept then the following calculations to show the relative proportions between the measures of England, and the weights of Ireland, by which grain is sold, in the former country by measure, and in the latter by weight.

A quarter is 8 bushels of Winchester measure. An English quarter of good wheat may be taken, at an average at $32\frac{1}{2}$ stipes of 14 lbs.; of

barley at 28 stipes, and of oats at $21\frac{1}{2}$. The Irish barrel of wheat is 20 stipes, or $2\frac{1}{2}$ cwt.; of barley 16 stipes, or 2 cwt. and of oats 14 stipes, or $1\frac{1}{2}$ cwt. Thus a calculation may be easily made, by reducing the weights of the one country to the measures of the other. A READER.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

LETTER ON MR. LANCASTER'S IMPROVED METHOD OF TEACHING.

We cheerfully embrace the views of the Committee and Teachers of the Belfast Sunday School, in giving further publicity to the following valuable Letter on the much improved plan of Education so successfully practised by J. Lancaster. The Letter is in reply to one written by a Member of the above Institution to his friend in London, requesting a general outline of the system, discipline, books, slates, &c. &c. used—and the yearly salary requisite to bring one of Mr. Lancaster's finished Pupils to conduct a School in this country on his plan.

" 42, Bedford Row, London July 28, 1810.

" DEAR SIR,

" BY appointment I was yesterday favoured with half an hour of Mr. Lancaster's time, which is equally valuable and constantly occupied, especially during the short period which he spends in London. In answer to the question respecting remuneration to one of his pupils to establish a school, he observed that eighty or one hundred pounds a year is common, but that he could say nothing till you informed him, by letter (the only mode in which he wishes to communicate any information on this subject) what is the extent of the proposed school, what scale it would be established on, the nature and extent of the building, number of pupils, &c. In a word, a summary statement of what you want, and what you think of attempting to establish. His opinion generally is that you ought to proceed on a grand scale, and not attempt the adoption of his plan in a contracted manner, which could not be advantageous to any party; that you ought to endeavour to obtain the unqualified approbation of all the leading characters in the place, insure the attendance of the great mass of the population, and proceed on such a liberal principle that you must eventually succeed.

" You request a minute description of the mode of teaching, books, benches, slates, &c. used. These things require in general a month or

six weeks to learn, and were I capable of describing every thing, which would fill a small volume, it would be still impossible for you to reduce it to practice. There is then only this alternative, either to send a person properly qualified to acquire a practical knowledge of the system in the school in London, or to procure a pupil to instruct persons in Belfast. The system is so connected that you can no more use any of its parts, separately, than a wheel without an axle. I shall endeavour, however, to give a slight idea of it.

"First, Whenever a child acquires a perfect knowledge of any one letter, he is placed in a class containing from five to twenty (according to the size of the school) and seated at a bench about two feet high, this bench is six, nine or more feet long, and about three feet broad, around it is a ledge half an inch higher than the surface, and this forms a hollow table which is covered with sand about one-fourth inch deep; on this sand the pupil makes the figure of the letter which he has just learned, and this is repeated several times, till he has attained such a knowledge of its real figure, and command of hand to sketch it with his finger, as are deemed sufficient. At this bench the scholars sit in one position, and obey the directions of the teaching boy, like soldiers at drill; whenever they have all made their letters—for instance *n*, the teacher or commanding officer of the bench draws a board over the lettered sand, and thus renders it perfectly smooth for the pupils to repeat the same regular operation; first placing their fingers on the ledge as a preparatory position, and then proceeding to make the same character; those who are very young, or very awkward, and cannot, after repeated directions, make any passable character, are placed together, and the more expert ones advanced to another class. When they have thus acquired adroitness in making one character, they are next placed to combine it with a vowel to form a syllable, and in this department they stand in a circular form before a sheet of their spelling book, pasted on a board, and suspended against

the wall; the teaching boy makes every one pronounce the letters or syllables in rotation, to which he points with a round ruler, and he who pronounces all the syllables across five perpendicular columns, is placed at the head of the class; those who fail are repeatedly directed, and what is more, their attention is kept engaged. In this manner the pupil advances from a knowledge of each letter, either in writing or spelling, till he goes through the alphabet, and is perfectly able to write all the characters, and combine them into short syllables. Arithmetic is next introduced, and the pupil advances in reading, writing, and counting at the same time, and in a year is generally able to read, write and comprehend the five common rules of arithmetic in a passable manner. All the teaching boys, who have just learned the part they are appointed to teach the others, have words of command to their attentive pupils, which would require some time to learn or become acquainted with; they have also a series of badges, medals of merit, &c. all of which are necessary to the machinery of the school. The slates are common, and vary in size, from two and a half inches broad, and five long, to nine inches broad, and fifteen long, according to the age and progress of the pupil. As to the spelling-book and arithmetic, they most assuredly could not be of any service to you, nor would they be intelligible, unless you had seen them used. The spelling book is printed on one side of cap paper, and pasted on boards; the arithmetic is done in the same manner, but on larger paper. One young man directs the free school in St. George's Fields, containing upwards of one thousand pupils, all very young, the house is low, built in the shed manner, and heated by flues under the floor; a cheaper and better mode would be by heated air conveyed in an iron tube from a kitchen fire.

"These are the principal circumstances which I can communicate to you, but they do not embrace any thing sufficient to be useful for your views. All the boys have their hats or caps hanging behind their backs

suspended with a cord or ribbon; the teaching boys wear badges, and all remain, in general, very fixed in their respective stations; order and harmony are every where apparent; there is no noise or bustle, no amusements, idling or any other mode of mispending the time. The children enter the school at eight, and continue till eleven in the morning, and again at one in the afternoon, and continue till four, thus occupying six hours every day, and changing their studies so often that the variety gives a taste for every new branch, and rather delights, than fatigues the scholar. I cannot indeed inform you of all the advantages attending this admirable system of teaching, but I may mention some things which are peculiar to it. In the first place, all the children necessarily, and without any compulsion (I might say voluntarily) acquire habits of strict attention, which cannot be acquired in any other school, not even by the deaf and dumb pupils of *Sicard*, or the blind ones of *Honig*; in the next place, those of order, regularity, decorum, uniformity of action, self command, and great facility of manual execution are attained to a degree of perfection, not at present generally believed possible. Emulation is excited without envy or jealousy, a spirit of industry without any reluctant murmurings, all violent and irascible passions are nearly unknown, and sentiments of mutual forbearance are insensibly acquired, with just notions of truth, moral obligation, and practical justice. There is no lying or dissimulation; no artifices to evade the eye of the master, skip a lesson, or pilfer toys from school-fellows; the hoarse voice, and stern looks of the master never inspire fear or revenge; for the age and size of the teacher are generally the same as the scholar, and his only superiority is that of being more adroit in forming a letter, or quick in pronouncing a syllable. When this mechanical labour is completed, an excellent selection of moral lessons are then read, and comprehended by all the pupils, and they are made fully sensible of those obligations, and relative social duties which cannot fail to

be useful to them during the remainder of their lives. Upon the whole, the admirable moral habits which they must acquire, independent of the just principles which they at the same time imbibe, are alone sufficient to give this system of education a precedence to any other which has yet been devised. To civilization....to the community, it must eventually be productive of incalculable advantages; for the great mass of mankind must ever be more influenced by habit than abstract principles, and their virtues and vices much more dependent on the former than on their reason, or even their passions. Happy would it be for Ireland if a Lancasterian School were established in every village; the present love of the marvellous and extravagant would be converted into a love of order and practical utility, and the standard of merit would then be, not in the greatest deviation from all rules, but in the closest adherence to regularity and consistency. There are many other direct advantages which must attend the plan you propose undertaking, and I sincerely hope you will persevere in carrying it into effect. But it appears to me impracticable or impolitic to confine it to Sunday Schools only. I agree with Mr. Lancaster in thinking that almost every respectable man in Belfast would subscribe to defray the expenses of a general and public Free School,* and that the town is sufficiently populous and wealthy for the institution. If proposed, it could scarcely meet any opposition; although it is necessary to be prepared to combat every sordid passion, prejudice, caprice, and ignorant objection which might arise. The thing is laudable, and every laudable attempt, even if unsuccessful, may contribute to the diffusion of know-

* The Managers of the Belfast Sunday School, we are pleased to notice, from the Annual Statement, just laid before the public, have entered fully into the spirit of this letter, and while the more advanced in years, whose time is occupied on week days, are instructed on Sundays, their plan will also extend to a General Day School. We hope this undertaking will meet with liberal support.

The Collectors appointed for the present year are Luke Terling.....James Mc A am.....David Bigger..... Thomas Mc Cabe, who will receive Donations, or Subscriptions, to complete the building which has been commenced for this Institution.

ledge and the dispersion of prejudice. Inquiry and investigation are advances towards improvement....are steps which lead to the temple of truth.

"Let me add, however, that should you make an effort to establish a school on friend Lancaster or Bell's plan, you must address Mr. Lancaster by letter, and directly, and he will give you a pretty accurate idea of the necessary expence of every thing except the building, which must be estimated by yourselves. A spelling-book and book of arithmetic will serve three or four years, and one thousand scholars each year, so that the expence of books is extremely small. Spelling-books six shillings, dictating do. two or four shillings, arithmetic ten shillings, &c. Should you, however, wish for these books, in order to form your own opinion of them, you can let me know by return of post, and your letter will reach me in time to send them with the first vessel which sails hence to Belfast. Or if you think I can communicate to you any more particulars by which you could profit, I shall attend Lancaster's school from three till four every day, the time allotted to visitors, until that I am perfectly acquainted with the mechanism of his system, and then write you a more detailed account of it. Convinced as I am of the great blessing of instruction to the poor, I shall most willingly contribute as far as in my power to facilitate your benevolent views, in communicating such information to the neglected or indigent youth, and procure you every information on the subject which can be communicated by letter.

I AM YOUR'S, &c.
J.A.B.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

SIXTH REPORT FROM THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION IN IRELAND.

To his Grace Charles Duke of Richmond and Lenox, &c. Lord Lieutenant General, and General Governor of Ireland.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR GRACE.

WE, the undersigned, commissioners, appointed for inquiring into the several funds and revenues grant-

ed for the purposes of education, and into the state and condition of all schools in Ireland upon public or charitable foundations, proceed to lay before your grace our report upon the hospital and free school of king Charles the 11d, commonly called the Blue-Coat Hospital.

The hospital and free school of Charles the second in Dublin was founded by a charter of the 23d year of his reign.

The mayor, sheriffs, commons, and citizens of Dublin, represented by petition, that many charitable persons were desirous to contribute towards the erecting of an hospital for maintaining aged and poor people, and a free school for the education of youth; whereupon his majesty was pleased to grant to the mayor, sheriffs, commons, and citizens of Dublin, his royal charter of incorporation, constituting them and their successors for ever governors of such hospital and free school, and giving them a piece of ground on Oxmantown Green, upon which they had already begun to erect a building for the purpose.

It has not appeared to us that at any time an establishment was made for the reception and maintenance of aged reduced people; but we have reason to think, that from the beginning a plan of useful education was formed which has continued to the present time. No further royal grant appears to have been made to the funds of this institution.

The establishment in its present state is for 130 boys; they are maintained, clothed, well instructed in the holy scripture, and in the principles of the protestant religion; in English, Euclid, Navigation, and the various branches of practical mathematics, in which some boys now in the school have made a proficiency uncommon for their years; this is much to the honour of their present master, who was educated in this institution — The boys are admitted at the age of 8, and apprenticed at the age of 14 years, some to trades, some to the sea service, with a fee of five pounds for each.

For 12 years ended 25 December 1808, the returns made to us give an average income of about

£.3,041 10 and an average expenditure of about £.3035 2.

In this expenditure are included the annual payments made in liquidation of a debt long since contracted. For, about the year 1779, the original hospital being decayed, and insufficient to receive the number of boys which the funds were then equal to maintain, new buildings were erected upon an enlarged plan at the expence of £.21,294; they are spacious; and though unfinished, an ornament to the city: but it is to be regretted, that a plan so expensive was chosen, since the funds were inadequate to the carrying it into effect. It was intended to provide for the reception of 300 children, but when the above large sum was expended, whereby a debt of £.4,000 and upwards was incurred, the governors were obliged to desist.— They had provided ample, and in appearance too expensive accommodations for officers to superintend an establishment for 300 boys; a beautiful chapel, a spacious school-room, a dining hall, but they had dormitories for only about 120 boys. It has been stated to us, that the debt will be paid off in the course of a year, this circumstance, with an increase of income lately obtained, will enable the governors to maintain more boys, and it may be observed, that were dormitories provided for 300, and were the funds adequate to their maintenance, the number might be received without any additional expence on account of officers: besides the expenditure for clothing and diet, and apprentice fees, only additional assistants in the school, and maid-servants would be required.

This is much to be desired, for it is a place of excellent education, which promises fair to send into the world good citizens and good subjects.

From the returns made to us it appears, that the steward of this institution was discontinued for irregularity in keeping his accounts, about 4 years since: that he possesses the apartments provided for that officer, with the full salary and allowances; and that the duties of the office are performed partly by the agent, with-

out additional salary on that account, and partly by the butler, who receives five guineas annually in addition to his wages for so doing; so that it appears, the duties of an office which has annexed to it salary and allowances (besides apartments) amounting to £.131 14 are discharged, and very satisfactorily too, for five guineas per annum by another person. We cannot pass over this transaction without expressing regret that the governors should have thought it necessary to leave an inefficient officer in possession of his apartments and full income; these circumstances suggest the idea of abolishing the office altogether upon the decease of the person who now holds it; the funds would thereby receive considerable relief, and the apartments might be assigned to the schoolmaster, or other arrangements made for the benefit of the institution; in these a better infirmary might be provided, the present one being ill constructed.

Of the boys in this institution, the governors of Erasmus Smith's school maintain thirty, at a charge of about £.24 per annum for each; and the treasurer of that institution (chief justice Downes) applies the fees annexed to his office by act of parliament to the maintenance of seven boys.

No parliamentary grant has been at any time made to this institution. *Council Chamber, Dublin Castle*

| | |
|-------------------------|----------|
| 12th May, 1809. | (Signed) |
| WM. ARMAGH, | (L. S.) |
| GEO. HALL, Provost, | (L. S.) |
| JAS. VERSCHOYLE } | (L. S.) |
| Dean of St. Patrick's } | (L. S.) |
| JAS. WHITELAW, | (L. S.) |
| WILLIAM DISNEY, | (L. S.) |
| RICHD. L. EDGEWORTH, | (L. S.) |

APPENDIX.

The governors of Erasmus Smith's charities have hitherto supported 20 boys in the hospital, and on the 24th June 1807 they increased their number to 30; the treasurer of that board also supports seven boys out of his fees as treasurer; these seven were added in June 1807; the boys on Erasmus Smith's foundation are nominated by that board as vacancies occur; the average expence of each boy for diet and clothing, is about

sixteen pounds a year, to which add their proportion of the expenses of the establishment, the necessary repairs of building, their apprentice fees, &c. makes the total expense of each boy, as nearly as can be computed, about twenty four pounds per annum; the boys who are put in on this foundation are not the sons of freemen.

The guild of St. Ann support two boys in the hospital, for which they pay annually forty pounds; these boys are not the sons of freemen.

There are ten boys always in the hospital, who are nominated by the bishop of Meath (for the time being) for ever, as trustee under the will of the late Henry Osburn, of Dardistown in the county of Meath, who by deed of agreement with the governors, dated the 11th March 1697, paid over to them the sum of one thousand pounds on the foregoing conditions; these boys are not the sons of freemen.

There are two boys always in the hospital, who are nominated by the minister of St. Werburgh's parish (for the time being) for ever, under the will of Mr. James Southwell, who bequeathed a sum of four hundred pounds and upwards, on the foregoing condition; these boys are not the sons of freemen.

The remaining number are nominated and appointed by the governor of the hospital, and must be the sons or grand sons of reduced free citizens of Dublin; they are admitted only on board days, as vacancies occur, by apprenticing or otherwise; and the governor whose turn it is to nominate must be present; the certificate of the boy's father or grand father's freedom must be produced, and the parent, or some near friend, must swear that the boy so admitted is the reputed son or grandson of the person mentioned in the said certificate.

It was intended that the present building should contain 300 boys, but the funds were so exhausted in building, and no aid having been given by parliament, the governors were unable to complete more building than what accommodates the present number of 127 boys; another wing

was intended in the rear of the hospital, equal to the one at present built, which (if completed) would accommodate the remaining number, of 300; but the funds are inadequate to support that number: the governors, however, hope, in the course of another year (by which time they expect to be out of debt) to be able to add twenty boys more to the establishment from the present state of their funds.

£ 750 is the debt due by bond.

Number of boys in the school 19th April 1809—130 is the establishment;—127 were in the house.

(Signed) *Robt. Hart.*

Note.—The boys get six ounces of bread at each meal, except 3 times a week, when they get meat, they then get but five ounces at dinner.

They get no bread when they get stirabout on Monday mornings; whenever they have meat for dinner, they get half a pint of beer after it.

The board ordered them to get meat for dinner *last year*, only from 1st February to 1st May, and half a pound of potatoes instead of bread; they never got potatoes before, except on one day in the year, and All Souls Eve. The boys rise at 6 in summer, and at 7 in winter, go to school at 7 in summer, and 8 in winter; leave school at 4 o'clock, and go to bed at 8 o'clock.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

THE SERVANT.

WITH the manners of the great, the bulk of mankind have little concern. Upon the feelings and conduct of the fashionable world, many romantic and novel productions are already in circulation. The subject of this paper was chosen with a view to correct some of the evils of real life, in its humblest walks. In attempting to do so, a liberty of occasional digressions will be taken, in making reflections and observations upon whatever direct delineation of character may be produced.

To the principal subject of the following plain and practical narrative is given the rustic and familiar name of Jack. He was a servant in a farmhouse situated in a rough part of the

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country, 'in one of the northern shires of Ulster. His master, employed in various avocations, found little time to attend to the concerns of his farm. He could scarcely be called a farmer, though he rented as many acres as fell to his average share in a populous district. The management and cultivation of the farm was of necessity principally left to Jack, with the help of a lad also hired, and two or three day-labourers occasionally engaged to assist in throng seasons. Jack was indisposed to subject his body to much fatigue, or depress his spirits with a load of cares in early life. At a beloved diversion, indeed, such as the races, a bullet match, or a cock fight, he did not spare himself, and could run as fast and as far as any of his fellows in a midnight excursion to a promiscuous and black-guard country dance: but was concerned to lose as little sweat as possible at his daily labour. Taking the advantage of his master's frequent absence and necessary inattentions, he stood idle during a large portion of that time in which he professed to be at work. If what he did should be examined, he well knew the difficulty of ascertaining, in many employments of husbandry, how much should be executed in a day. When tolerably accurate accounts of diligence or negligence could be taken, greater exertions were made; or, what was more common, the difficulty of the job, the unhandiness and other deficiency of farming utensils, put into his hands, the hindrances which happened to occur, and the like, were pleaded as an apology for the little that was performed. When occasionally under the eye of a superintendant, he artificially contrived to keep still moving without doing much; or, if he was active and diligent for a time, it was more to complete his scheme of premeditated deception, than to forward the business of his employer. That he might indulge his native, or, I should rather say, contracted indolence, and jog along in a *country step* at his usual *snail speed*, he endeavoured to fortify himself against the pinching blast of winter. In addition to a heavy coat that was seldom thrown off to work even in sum-

mer, he usually wore close woollen stockings, incased in old galligaskins, thick soled *brogues*, daily furnished inside with a hay or a straw wisp, strong breeches lined with padua, under a coarse pair of trowsers, a vest of home-made broad-cloth, with flannel sleeves, and, in cold weather, a surtout bound close about his middle with a belt. Let none conceive such multiplying of clothing as beyond the ability of those whom some are pleased to call poor servants. Many such, now-a-days, are richer in their station than their masters, and live better both in respect of drudgery and clothing, and perhaps we might also add, of diet. Time was, when a frieze jacket, and woollen hat, would have contented them; but nothing less than a fine beaver, and superfine coat will now suffice, to be of a piece with other affected elegancies of attire. Less blame, however, in this particular, attaches to them than to others, as they only ape the greater follies of their superiors in the article of dress. From the anxieties of providing for large families, from heavy taxes, and exorbitant rents, they are free; and frequently find ways and means of shunning a *dead lift*, and escaping the heaviest part of the job. The best portion of meals, and the best served up, is not unfrequently set before them for the sake of credit, as also to prevent the complainings of some, who, in unbecoming pride, pretend much niceness and delicacy of appetite, though they may be but upstarts from beggary. In Jack's garb, above described, it was impossible to work as he ought, had he been willing. The putting of it on by one who was seldom in a hurry, consumed no little time in a winter morning. A repast, best known in many parts of the country by the appellation of a *morning piece*, was to be taken, and after this, what will be best understood by the vulgar name of a *smoke*. Out of six or eight hours of a day, subtract also the time *leisurely* spent at a breakfast and a dinner, with the repetition at least of another whiff of the American plant at each, and little in the intervals could be done even by the industrious, but still less by indifferent Jack.

whose chief concern was to put in his time as easily as possible, and secure his wages. I mean not to condemn the use of tobacco, though many an unprofitable, slanderous and defaming hour has been spent at it, and many a nervous complaint has the excessive use of it tended to cherish: but it is become a valuable article in commerce; habit with many may have rendered that necessary, which was before a luxury: the duty upon it forms an important item in the revenue: it may be a means of preventing the spread of contagious disorders, and is no doubt medicinal in some cases. An inhabitant of the city of Glasgow, with a view perhaps to get rid of an expensive and growing habit, in the course of last year, resolved to relinquish the use of this plant, to which he had been long a slave. By degrees becoming blind, much medical skill for the restoration of his sight was tried in vain. A physician finding he had been a user of tobacco, advised him to resume his old custom. He did so, and his former good sight was gradually restored. Nor would I hint, that a working man should not have abundance of necessary and substantial food; yet there is a too frequent and gluttonous overloading of the stomach, that unqualifies even for the hardy labours of the field. I do not pronounce Jack to be a glutton; yet, had he eaten more moderate quantities of bread and old bacon, his health might have been at times, better, and his services more profitable. In long days he was a scrupulous observer of hours. His attention, however, was more turned to the time of quitting, than of commencing his daily task: and it was unusual thing to hear him charge the same regular time-keeper with being fast at six o'clock in the morning, and slow at the same hour in the evening. Owing to night-rambling, and consequent heaviness, pretence of not hearing, or disregard of the summons, he was seldom roused in the morning by a first call. Six o'clock frequently arrived, and found him in bed. He, nevertheless, generally rose in time to step forth and commence business with the occasional labourers, who,

before coming to a day's work, were alert at some job of their own, to which, taking care not to be jaded through the day, they would return as soon as possible in the evening. Some of the many homely maxims of these peasants were: "Let us take our time:" "we are not beasts," "no horse can still gallop," "it is a long day till night," "the master has provisions to sell, while we have nothing but as we buy," "his money is easily won, while ours is the scanty wages of hard labour," "to-morrow is a new day, and, what cannot be done this week, may be accomplished the next." To all these Jack gave his hearty consent, and, for mutual entertainment, to indulge sloth, divert fatigue, and pass the time, joined his companions in various and abundant conversation. The events of the neighbourhood, the foibles of neighbours, the rate of markets, and dearth of victuals; the roguery of forestallers, and schemes of hoarding misers; the tyranny of the great, and oppressions of the poor; the reports in circulation, however wild and incredible; the politics of nations, law adages, rough stories, boasting lies, and coarse witticisms formed the ample field of their dialogues. The progress of the work in hand, not being an object of chief concern, was allowed to meet with many hindrances in the warmth of discussing the numerous topics which occurred. To converse much, and be diligent in business at the same time, is impossible. Contrary to what was intended, the heat of argumentation, or, rather of dogmatical assertion, the barefaced repartee, sometimes issued in unpleasant altercation and party bickerings: as did also their several endeavours to obtain the most handy implement, and the lightest part of the work. Differences of opinion, on what was to be done, and what might be the best mode of doing it, were often designedly the cause of delay. The more hands employed, the loss of time was the greater; as they frequently stood in the way of each other; while the opinionative, the knavish, and talkative prevented the exertions of their more industrious and pliant fellows. Listless endeavours and prevalent un-

concern produced little work; and that little imperfectly performed. Taking time is not always followed by doing well. Sluggish movements are often as incorrect as precipitate execution. These men, and such as they, by thus cheating their employers, labour under a sad mistake. In their catalogue of plain proverbs, they forget this: "the penny that is well won, wears well." That servant who works not in proportion to his wages, is dishonest to his master, as really as the thief who robs him of his property by night. His conduct may not be marked with the same palpable impropriety, but is not the less evil on that account. They do not consider their wilful trifling and negligence, as liable to grow into confirmed habits of sloth and carelessness, which will come to injure themselves and their own little domestic concerns. To these habits, thus acquired, may be often attributed the ragged coat and naked progeny, the garden grown over with weeds, the decayed and empty cabin, the abode of cheerless poverty. To the same source may, in part, be traced that larceny and pilfering, which have been mistakingly reckoned the justifiable concomitants of straitened circumstances: and which, in instances not a few, have led to burglary and shop-lifting, with other gross immoralities, the forerunners of merited ignominy and condign punishment. The labouring peasant should reflect, that a good substantial day's work, regularly proceeded in, will do no injury to his bodily health; and is best calculated to promote his peace of mind. He ought to view his employer's business as his own. On him he has to depend for necessities; to him he must go for relief, when providential misfortunes occur in his lot. The faithful and diligent will always find employment; while the knavish and slothful are only engaged in case of mere necessity. Should the honest and industrious be at any time reduced to poverty by accidents or infirmity, they will be provided for at home, where they are known. They have a fair claim upon the bounty of that parish where they have resided, and of those who have been benefited by

their services. Should they be so reduced, which is not common, they cannot be properly called beggars; and hence perhaps is the language of the ancient king of Israel: "I have been young, and now am old, yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread." The unjust and idle, when a worse fate does not befall them, are often urged by their own conduct to skulk from their native neighbourhood, and reduced to abject beggary, and a wretched exit amongst strangers.

If Jack had been only active and diligent, instead of idle and lazy, when he had company to assist him, his master's agricultural improvements would have been better forwarded, and he could have made a more confidential apology for occasional relaxation, when alone. The loss, however great, sustained by his mispent time, and puny exertions, was not equal to the detriment resulting from his carelessness. The farming utensils, as they had time to wear by moderate use, were impaired or lost by mismanagement. The shafts of two spades were broken in one season, not by diligent digging, but by the sudden jerk of the one in raising a stone, and a rash pressure of the other, by way of lever, in sinking a grain through tough clay. The face of the sledge was battered, both the cleaving and taper ends of the crow, and point of the pick were blunted by unskilful and heedless treatment. So many of the sickles in cutting grass for the cattle through the summer, were lost, one after another, as rendered a new set necessary on the approach of harvest. Horse shoes, not being observed when loose, were often lost. A tooth of a grape was broken between two stones, in cleaning the cow-house; and a pitch-fork shared the same fate in being thrown from the top of the hay-stack. At one time a car-shaft was nipped into two pieces by moving forward the horse before he was yoked to the car, and, at another, the same mischief was done by the failure of an unheeded weak tie of the draughts. A straddle, being ungirthed and left to fall from the horse's back on the pavement, was rendered useless.

By the leaving of a gate open, half a dozen of cows made sad destruction in a fine field of oats; and one of them, not allowed to depart by the gate, but hurried over the ditch, had her thigh-bone fractured. At a different time, another of these most useful animals, cast her calf, in consequence of unmerciful justling, and kicks at the stake. A young swine had nearly lost its life by the violent throw of a stone; and a promising colt was deprived of an eye by the unguarded stroke of a whip. How irrational, how vain, and unprofitable is it for man to get into a passion with a brute, and vent his rage like Balaam, in cruel abuse of a dumb animal, incapable of ceasing to exercise the instincts of its nature! Of two horses taken out to run races on rocky ground, while the owner was at a neighbouring fair, one by a fall, got a shoulderslip. A harrow being carelessly left in an entry from the stable to the barn, a young horse by trampling on one of the teeth, after much farriery with him, had his price reduced from twenty guineas to two. On the master's being abroad for a few weeks, a useful blood mare died of a farcy, forwant of a seasonable remedy.

These and the like fruits of carelessness, with others more bitter that might have been mentioned, afford an important lesson to servants. Much must of necessity be trusted to them. By a little inattention they may do more damage in a short time, than they could repair for life. Their capital is but small, and as restitution, or indemnification is, to them, often impracticable, they should guard against injuring their masters by that remissness for which they can make little or no compensation.

It might be supposed to be unreasonable to charge all the evils mentioned above to the account of *one* Jack. To the reader it will appear somewhat paradoxical, to be told, that the mischief detailed was really done, and yet the greater part of it done by nobody. Jack like too many of his fellow servants, had learned the bold-faced art of denial. "Thy servant went no whither," said Gehazi to Elisha. They would not be witnesses

against him nor he against them; and so the guilty were concealed. Masters, on discovering the truth, would do well to guard against bitter chidings, severe correction, discharge, or whatever other proceeding might tempt servants to lie: and though servants ought to love each other, they should not be accomplices in vice.

It is for Jack's reformation, and with no design to offend or expose him, that his failings have been hitherto principally recorded. Amid all his blemishes he had perfections; though they were now and then sadly obscured by the predominance of evil propensities. To dwell on defects, and make no mention of good properties, would be doing injustice to his character, and defeating our endeavours to improve it. Due praise of virtues tends to cherish them, and virtues cherished may come to prevail over vicious habits. A perfect character, or one in all respects bad, is not to be found in the chequered variety of human life. In no characterizing of man should he be made a devil, nor an angel of heaven. The existence of universal imperfection furnishes no solid reason, why any should rest satisfied with that degree of moral excellence to which they may suppose they have advanced. Gradual improvements may still be made in a state, where absolute perfection is not attainable.

The skill and experience Jack had acquired were exercised in making those markets with which he was entrusted, as if they had been his own. In this particular he discovered a laudable integrity, and an inclination to improve. Punctual accounts of expenditure and gain were returned. Past mistakes served as a lesson for future caution. In two or three instances, indeed, he was known to take a glass too much; but that was more the fault of others than himself. If he did not well know how to husband his little stock or withstand temptation, wages should not have been given him at an unreasonable time, nor for improper purposes; nor should he have been treated with drams at the different shops where he had occasion to call. Superiors are principally to blame, if inferiors contract those vice

which they, in their more exalted station, have a power to restrain or encourage. Exceeding the bounds of moderation and temperance at the proper times of taking a necessary glass, and drinking *any* at unseasonable hours, are the chief sources of those tripping habits which do so much mischief in society. In running on occasional errands, or in carrying an urgent express, the slothful habits, for which Jack has been so much blamed, appeared to be mastered: but resumed their native powers in the accomplishment of *stated* messages. The meeting of acquaintances, staring at strangers, and viewing the various objects that presented themselves on the way, mightily retarded that progress on which he was not very intent. Though he had little to bestow, and not much in his power, yet charity and friendship were prominent features of his character. His little purse was opened with more freedom and liberality than his master's larger one. Those who have but few pence set the least value upon trifles. He cast a mite into the *poor's box* oftener than many of his rich neighbours. In the exercise of filial duty he appropriated a portion of his annual earnings to the support of his aged parents. His master and family were once confined with a tedious fever. On this occasion he doubled his exertions, cheerfully exposed himself to all the dangers of infection, when it was necessary, and manifested his kindness and sympathies in paying what attention he could by day and by night. Such conduct is well worthy of imitation, and should not be left to pass unrewarded. It is the honour of many in low stations, that they sedulously attend, at the peril of their lives, upon those who labour under infectious and mortal diseases. No monetary consideration can be an adequate reward for those who faithfully discharge this important duty. What a pity is it, that medical gentlemen do not take more pains in endeavouring to teach servants how to attend the sick; more of whom are lost for want of care than of medicine. The physician's time of waiting on his patient is often limited to a few minutes. For the application of his prescriptions the apothecary's label or verbal di-

rection contains very imperfect instruction. In effecting cures, perhaps more depends upon the proper application of medicine than upon the medicine itself: and more than both these, upon assiduous and indefatigable attention to cleanliness, air, and regimen. A plain and persuasive inculcation of such attention would do infinitely more credit to a medical visitant, than an abstruse lecture in endeavouring to magnify the mysteries of his art.

In manners Jack was none of the most polite; nor did he abound in that rudeness which is indulged by many of his fellows. Respectful behaviour is the ornament of all; but it peculiarly becomes those who are dependants. Some haughty superiors demand an extreme of servile obedience, which begets hatred; while others, especially among the lower orders, admit their servants to familiarities with them that issue in unmannerliness and disobedience. Such frequent changing of servants, as exists, would not be requisite, did masters better keep their place, and more punctually discharge their magisterial duties. The difficulties so often complained of in keeping servants, are not all owing to that class of society. Jack had faults which rendered connection with him sometimes unpleasant; but the whole evil of those faults was not attributable to himself. His master gave too many and too peremptory orders, and thereby lessened his authority, and inadvertently promoted disobedience. He expected more care of the hireling than was reasonable; and therefore met with disappointment. He frequently laid the whole concern upon others, of which himself should have borne a share. He perhaps did not make sufficient allowance for casualties in the misfortunes that happened about his house. He might not possess skill in every department of rural business, and consequently in some cases, make false estimates of his workmen's labour. By grating and public chidings, for trifling mistakes, he chafed the spirits, and wounded the feelings of those subject to his authority, and thereby provoked dislike. If he was heated with unmannerly language, it was

partly provoked by passion or false blame. He was too niggardly of applause for well doing, not considering, that, though the hire is worthy of the labourer's faithful services, yet additional praise would be easily conferred: the love of it is natural, and the withholding of it tends to dishearten. He was rather jealous of his servants' honesty, over-prying into their trivial secrets, and too watchful of their mispendings of time. Were they addicted to diversion and idleness; he was a churl of an hour's innocent amusement.

To all these imperfections the reader will not attach the reproachful character of a bad master; especially when he is told, the servant had always plenty of wholesome food, was seldom disturbed in his rest, unless by his own folly, received no rigid correction, had never to keep the field on a wet day, or in severe weather, and got the full amount of his wages, with assistance in disposing of it to the best advantage. Jack grew fat, and might have been happy and contented: but man is fond of novelty and change, and never more so than when comfortably situated. After five year's service, he expressed an intention of choosing a new master: rather, however as a device for increasing his wages, and enhancing his value, than with a sincere desire to depart. To have flattered him to stay would have been attended with no good consequences. At the term he was allowed to depart, and obtained such a certificate, and only such, as he deserved. The too prevalent practice of giving a false testimonial with bad servants, is very improper. It is a means of cherishing those failings which, by giving a true character, might be corrected. It is an imposition on the next employer, a defeating of the design and advantage of certificates, and a perversion of the duty we owe to our neighbour. By the waste of war, male servants are drained from the country. The great number of bidders, and scarcity of the commodity always raise its price, and prevent the purchaser from rejecting an indifferent article, where a better cannot be had. Jack soon found an-

other place, where being a stranger, he was an excellent servant for a while. In process of time his evil habits began again to discover themselves: and his night raking and gallantry issued in the pregnancy of a neighbour's youthful maid. As many of his superiors have done, he did not act the part of a villain in abandoning the innocent dupe of his artifice to a ruined fortune and broken heart. He yoked himself with her for life, for better and for worse, in the sweet bands of matrimony, premeditating very little on where he should pitch his tent, or respecting the necessities wherewithal he should furnish a cot and commence housekeeping. If "*multiply and replenish the earth*," is an injunction of the best political philosophy ever given to man," the poor obey this injunction more readily and more successfully than the rich.

Before we give Jack's history in this new relation, a brief sketch of the character of his yoke-fellow, as "in female servant station," might not be unacceptable.

Bullynahinch,

S. E.

To be Continued. page 246

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

LUCY AND EMMA, A TALE.

LUCY and Emma were inhabitants of the same village, and their age was nearly the same. It is hard to say whether their natural dispositions were the same or not, because from the first dawn of childhood they were treated so differently. Lucy was judiciously treated, and Emma by improper management became a cross untractable child. Mrs. Smith, the mother of Lucy, was a woman of fine natural understanding: she thought she discerned the same qualities in her daughter, but she was aware, that either fine taste, or strong understanding was insufficient to render her either truly amiable or happy: she considered that the one often promotes discontent with plain people and useful employments, and that the other, when not well directed, renders the possessor obstinate and unfeeling. From the time that Lucy's little hand was able to pull the tea-

things off the table, her mother forbade her by the monosyllable "dost," which was sufficiently strong, and was an expression long enough to suit Lucy's comprehension. No tears had any avail to change the resolution of Mrs. Smith; she often endeavoured to please the child by turning her attention to other objects, but never submitted to her strong little will. This was her practice upon all occasions, so that Lucy well knew that "dost" was an irrevocable decree. On the contrary when Emma attempted to take any thing she was first refused, she then cried and obtained her wish, threw it away or destroyed it, and cried again for something else; the same process continued till her wishes were past human reach, nothing then could pacify her till sleep or weariness gave relief to her hearers; as her strength increased, her wishes increased, and her will became stronger; as her genius brightened, she more ingeniously tormented her attendants. Happily use reconciles us to almost every thing, for Emma's tears were of course, and at length affected her hearers little except to induce them to supply her wants till their resources were exhausted. Mrs. Delmond, the mother of Emma, was what is called a sensible woman; indeed she had sense enough to enable her to act very differently from what she did, she was generally esteemed an agreeable person to spend an evening with, and could keep up a conversation in so general a manner that nobody was displeased with her; she had also read whatever was much recommended by her acquaintance; her circumstances were very limited, so that she was forced to pay much attention to her child, otherwise she would gladly have left her to a hireling; and she did so whenever it was in her power. She always considered the care of her daughter as a burden, rather than an interesting and engaging employment. When Emma began to speak and happened to be in good humour, her company was truly pleasant, her remarks were again and again repeated, and she was considered by all the family as a wit; they often made comparisons between

her and Lucy, who spoke plain enough, but seldom was remarked except as a quiet inoffensive child, with foolish affection for her mother.

When they were about ten years of age it was observed, that Emma was taller and nicer formed than Lucy, which increased Mrs. Delmond's wish to adorn her daughter with fine clothes; she attended strictly to her carriage and complexion; her clothes must not be wide, and her face must never be uncovered before the sun. Mrs. Smith thought little of these exterior qualities or ornaments; Lucy's clothes were easy and neat, she was healthy and upright; there were regular hours for her several occupations; when she was at play she was positively free and happy, her hours of school or amusement never seemed tedious; her mother had always inculcated the love of usefulness, the school was no drudgery, and her appetite for pleasure was never cloyed by great indulgence, so she was easily pleased at play. Emma's hours were very differently spent, she had an aversion to settle to any one thing after the novelty was over; she learned what she undertook quickly, that is, she took it up soon, her mother attributed her want of perseverance to a bright understanding which was unfit for drudgery, and to a vivacity which it would be wrong to curb. It was found almost impossible to satisfy Emma's wishes for amusement. But Lucy was still the happiest.

Mrs. Delmond intended to be very particular about Emma's reading, but, her education was such that she could not bear to read any serious work, yet as she had taste and little employment, she was never without a book. Novels are the most palatable food for such a mind, as pickles and spiced food to a weak stomach; as they increasingly injure the tone of it, so they are increasingly coveted. After having read of the imaginary miseries and happiness of these novel characters, Emma believed herself still more miserable; secure from adventures, she only wanted the temptation to run away with some swain and break her mother's heart; but as there was no

opportunity for such a great event, she made her mother unhappy by appearing always discontented and never assisting in her family concerns; all the people she saw who minded their business in a plain way she despised, her mother she thought weak and stupid, and Lucy a prude. Mrs. Smith she looked upon as a tyrant. She never took time to look into her own mind and see its confused state, for in those hours suited for contemplation she was reading novels, or in her lonely walks she was forming plans of romantic happiness. Not thus lived Lucy; as soon as her mother thought she was capable she was instructed in the arts of house-keeping; she was not all at once involved in these concerns, but what was her part must be done; her chief relaxations were working in her mother's company or reading. She was not only furnished with suitable books of religion, morality, history and poetry, but she was blessed with a solid mind capable of understanding and relishing them. As there was always a degree of intimacy between Lucy and Emma they recommended their books to each other. Emma, as might be supposed, seldom relished Lucy's taste, and as Lucy was in the habit of consulting her mother on all occasions and relying on her judgment, she was easily persuaded to return Emma's wretched novels unread. Mrs. Smith was not frightened at the name of a novel, and was sometimes pleased with one, which amidst the general trash was tolerable, but she believed that they were all too highly seasoned for a young mind to digest; she saw her daughter happy, and dreaded that even the best of these books might unsettle her mind. She thought the generality of novels created the first principles of almost every vice.

When Lucy and Emma had attained their 18th year they began to attract admirers. Indeed Emma never spoke or was silent, sat down or stood up, or walked across the room that she did not suppose herself in an interesting attitude, and an object of admiration. She now entirely ceased occupying herself at any domestic employment; finding the day

always too long she never got up till breakfast was waiting; she was seldom seen in the parlour with her mother except at meal-times, or if visitors called; she staid in her room reading novels, dressing herself, or viewing herself in the glass, and sometimes she walked out either with improper company or to nourish romantic notions. A very young man who had but little experience of people or things, and who thought nothing was so charming as a companion through life of infinite sensibility, was touched by Emma's pensive air, and expressing his passion in the most strong and tender manner to her and her mother, they concluded to accept of him. Emma thought the fulness of her hopes was about to be realized. The young man possessing little of what Emma called the filthy dross of this world was no objection to her, as she had always wished to *live in a cottage on-locc*. Her mother, indeed, who knew that either labour or money is necessary to support life in any station, had some fears for her darling daughter, but the joy of having her settled, and the affectionate protestations of Mr. Kemmy, which was the name of the lover, silenced her fears. They were accordingly married and removed to a thatched house in the centre of Mr. Kemmy's farm.

In the mean time Lucy was more and more the companion and assistant of her mother who knew that the mind of an animated young person must have some object to interest it. Her reading was such as to improve her taste, strengthen her mind, and instruct her heart. Her domestic employments regularly pursued gave her a relish and constant interest in common life and an aversion to idleness; her benevolent exertions opened her tenderest feelings, and gave her fortitude to bear comparatively trifling evils, and gratitude for the happiness she enjoyed. Her mother's company and her own observations turned every scene and circumstance to a profitable account; thus fortified she was prepared to bear the strokes of misfortune, or the intoxicating draught of prosperity without being overwhelmed or unreasonably elated. In her childhood the remarks which she uttered were not

taken much notice of, so that, at no time of her life did she fancy herself observed or admired; she unaffectedly said and did what she thought right. Her feelings and affections were all alive though not wasted upon trifles; it is frequently observed that those who waste their affections upon trifles feel the least strongly or permanently for real losses.

Lucy was every day reaping the benefit of a good education when her mother died. Mrs. Smith was lamented by all ranks. Great indeed was Lucy's loss and great her affliction, but being always accustomed to give up her own will, she did not refuse to listen to consolation. She found much more satisfaction in the rough expression of the poor than the ceremonious visits of the rich; she was convinced of the sincerity of the poor family, when with one accord they said "Oh, may the Lord comfort you and shower his blessings upon you; your sweet mother was good, for she comforted us and showed goodness to us;" but when the fashionable lady comes in she inquires "how long was Mrs. Smith ill; colds are very prevalent this season, and are frequently fatal, but Miss Smith you should come out to see your friends, you will hurt your health." It need not be remarked that the rich and poor are born with the same feelings and the same sincerity, but as the rich have it in their power to amuse themselves in various ways, their affections are more divided, and experiencing few worldly privations, they so little know how to value what they possess, that they are less likely to sympathize with the distressed; as all these circumstances are quite the reverse with the poor, so the effects of them are also opposite. The attention of the rich and gay are also so hurried by trides that they have not time to enter into any solid feeling, and they are so spoiled by indulgence that they turn away with disgust and weariness from the house of mourning.

Lucy was not suffered inactively to pine, for another affliction of a different kind awaited her. Mrs. Smith's yearly income was small, but with economy supplied all their wants,

and afforded means every year to lodge a small sum in the hands of a friend for Lucy, as her income was to cease at her death; but this friend to all appearance wealthy and trusty became a bankrupt, so that Lucy soon heard that she had lost her whole fortune; her first sensations afforded pleasure that her mother could never hear of it, she also considered that a necessity to exert herself might be of use to her troubled mind; her friends proposed many plans for her support. She knew how to do many kinds of work, and she was capable of instructing children, but in a small village her business would scarcely be sufficient to defray the expenses of house-keeping, at least she feared to run the risk, particularly when on applying to her friends, who had formed so many plans for her, she found not one of them was in want of any wares or talents that she could produce. She had very little money and there was no time to be lost; she was invited to visit some friends but she conceived that the long visit of a dependant was in danger of becoming irksome to both parties; and her habits of settled industry gave her such a relish for home that she could not bear to fly from one place to another, thus scattering her attention and affections, so that she preferred a laborious home to any thing which offered. She heard of a lady about twenty miles from her native village who wanted a servant to attend her children, she proposed herself and was accepted.

Lucy was not twenty years of age, of a pleasing countenance, person and manners, a fine understanding, a highly cultivated mind, her heart depressed with extreme sorrow for her mother, and reduced as she was, yet having a natural dread of depending on strangers—when thus endowed and thus depressed she became a children's maid to a fine lady, altogether different from Mrs. Smith. This lady fancied herself an affectionate mother because she indulged her children; being too lazy to keep them in order it was her custom to make but fear of their father and the servant who attended them; consequently these hated monsters were

applied to on emergencies or when she was tired of them. She was never known to keep a children's maid more than three months, because as the children were peevish with those they loved, they were cruel and tyrannical with their miserable butt;—their father was more fortunate, for their dread of him made them fly from his presence. Lucy, who had a mind superior to her mistress, resolved to bring herself to her condition, she determined to bear every hardship which might occur with patience, and whenever it was in her power she intended to improve the wretched manners of the children. The day after she went there she was sent for to carry the children to the nursery, but by the time she had reached the parlour another humour had seized her mistress, and she was told she was only sent for to frighten the children because they were bold; again she was sent for and ordered to carry them away one by one; they were all crying and kicking. Lucy was hardly able to fulfil her orders, and when she found herself shut up with these mischievous little animals she could not but painfully remember her former peaceful hours. Here was all confusion among this little fry who were to be her companions, and who, if well educated, she fancied capable of cheering her melancholy hours with their innocent prattle. In all the rest of the family there was no kindred mind; she continually made comparisons between present and past times, and in the enthusiasm of youth she felt the glow of poignant regret at the recollection of her mother, her former occupations and refined amusements; still feeling as high or higher relish than ever for these things—or when she witnessed the distress of the poor who crowded round her master's gate, and saw them not only refused relief, but dispatched with insulting language, how did benevolence mixed with indignation spring up in her mind. It had been Lucy's constant habit to meditate deeply upon her actions and thoughts, to endeavour to bring them to the test of rectitude, and the result of these meditations now was to bring her

mind to her condition, and to do all the good in her power. She was unaccustomed to children, but having heard her mother say how improper it was to pacify them when crying through ill humour, she sat down in the midst of them, proceeded with her work, and appeared to take no notice of them; their shrieks increased to such violence that she was alarmed, and lest they should go into convulsions she was forced to beseech they would be good, but her voice was not heard in the tumult which increased when she spoke; the housemaid now opened the door with a message from the mistress that Lucy would not tease the children. "Come to your own Betty my jewel, my heart's delight" says Betty to little Jane, who cried the loudest, come and I'll give you cake and sugar, and don't stay with bold Lucy. In vain Lucy, their hated slave, could reason with the remaining three. Mary, the eldest soon ran to her mamma with accounts of Lucy's cruelty and laziness—the servant man came for master John, who accompanied him to the stable, and thence to the cook who treated them both with a cut off the spit. Anna alone remained with Lucy, she was about seven years old, and was of a gentle disposition, but fretful by bad management. Lucy had no cake to offer or she might have been tempted, but she promised if she was good to give her a pretty book, which she immediately performed; but Anna could not read, yet she listened to Lucy reading and was much amused when Mary came to inquire for the children. Lucy was frightened and ran to seek them; there was no account of Betty and Jane, she found John in the stable, but he was going to water the horses with Pat; upon which this poor victim of all the humours of the family informed her mistress that Jane could not be found, and John was going to ride. "Bring me no such message" said the mistress; "it is your business to keep the children with you wherever you are" Lucy retired with painful sensations; she had never seen her mother unreasonable, and she now thought appearances were against her. "Squire

natural tears she dropped, but wiped them soon ;" some keen reflections she made upon the treatment of servants, but banished them soon, bowed under the yoke, and in vain sought for John and Jane ; but her condition was not so bad as she expected, for her mistress never enquired more about them, and would not have inquired for them but at Mary's instigation. It was Mrs. Thomson's plan to throw all the trouble of her children upon her servants, whom she remarked were paid for it, and if there was any amusement in them she took it, because her rank was such that amusement was proper for her. When her children were not with her, she cared very little where they were ; but when she could shew care for them at the expense of another she made enquiries, ordered a hunt and forgot them. Betty was in the habit of drinking, and under pretence of airing the children she used to take one of them with her, generally the youngest, being least likely to betray her. The former children's maid willingly gave up a part of her charge as long as Betty pleased, sometimes this little victim was not laid in its bed till 12 o'clock, or if any inquiry was made, there was always some plausible favourite who settled the difficulty.

Betty intended to continue these bad measures, but Lucy told her she was accountable for the safety of the children, and would complain to her mistress if she ever took them out. Betty was undismayed, having no idea that Lucy would dare to make an enemy of a fellow servant ; she was always provided with cakes or playthings, or pretty stories, or some artifice fitted for their several ages ; she soon discerned that Mary was a favourite with her mother, disliked Lucy, and was ingenious at representing things as suited her purpose, accordingly Mary was the engine she made use of to revenge herself on Lucy. Whenever Betty found Mary alone, she would begin her artifice by telling her what a fine young woman she was grown, how like she was to her sweet quiet mother ; "how pleasant a house we had, Miss Mary, before Lucy came among us, but it is

not clear to me but the conceited upstart wants to crow over us all, aye, and alter the very customs of the house ; but sure Miss, your mamma has too high a spirit to allow of the like." Mary's pride being hurt, she replied, "No really, my mother wont allow any one to be mistress of this house but herself. Lucy is a lazy girl, and I will let my mamma know." Mrs. Thomson much disliked knowing or hearing any detail of her affairs, but Mary knew how to awaken her attention, she was extremely proud, and could ill brook that even her husband should know or say any thing better than herself, accordingly she took a fixed dislike to Lucy ; her accent which was genteel, but quite unaffected, she said made her sick, for she hated that servants should mince their words, if she did not use flattery or crouching terms (which are often used by the poor from their continual habit of dependence) she was termed rough and saucy. Every means was taken by mistress, children, and servants, to mortify her. Betty fearlessly pursued her wicked schemes, at night she was drunk, in the day she was gaining favour with every one but Lucy.

At length Lucy thought it would be very blameable to refrain any longer from laying the whole affair before her mistress. She went into her room when she was alone, and said she wished to speak to her about something of consequence. "Well speak fast, for I have not a moment to spare. I expect some morning visitors immediately. Have you so much handiness as to pin that flower on my head? No, I see by your manner you have never been used to any thing of this kind. What have you to say?" "I have," said Lucy trembling, "been long uneasy about Betty's conduct." "I pray, interrupted Mrs. Thomson, "you will bring me no stories ; I have neither time to listen to them, nor inclination to be made uneasy about those I employ ; I never had so many complaints as since you came." "As I have not the care of your servants," said Lucy, "I would not have troubled you, but your child is con-

cerned." "It is your business to mind the children, and not either mine or Betty's. I pay you more wages than my former servant in your place, because I heard such a great character of you, but I find if servants are not rogues or drunkards, they are a bad, or worse, for they grow so proud that we lose all authority in our own houses. Pray don't disturb me any more, but mind your business. Don't you hear the knock at the door? if it be that dictating being, Doctor A——, tell him I am not at home." Lucy opened the door, the person was Doctor A——, she stood wavering; she was so unfashionably educated as never to tell a lie upon any occasion. Doctor A——'s penetrating eye saw her embarrassment, and he said, "Ah! child I understand, you were desired to say that your mistress was not at home, Eh?" "I believe sir," said Lucy, "my mistress is not ready to wait on you." "Never," said the Doctor, "suffer those lips to be defiled by delivering a false message. A good conscience, young woman, is not to be thrown away for any of the fashions of the day. You are a great deceiver if you have not an honest heart, but you have a sad countenance. You are too young to have a heart-ache." Lucy burst into tears, and ran up stairs to the nursery; her fellow servants heard all that passed, and felt their hatred and fear of her to increase. With agony she considered her situation, mortified on all hands, accountable for the care of the children, despairing to improve their minds, dreading the destruction of their lives from Betty's wrong conduct, and expecting all blame would fall upon her, she had almost concluded to seek out another place, when the remembrance of her mother's counsel rose on her mind like a sunbeam, and she sobbed out the following soliloquy. "No, I will not leave this place merely on account of my sufferings—was it for this that my mother curbed my childish will, inured me to industry, told me of the troubles which await us all, and pointed to Heaven as our reward if we bear all with patience. If I never were to experience trouble what use should I make of her angelic

counsels. Even if I should leave this scene of confusion and injustice, perhaps I might enter into a worse, as servitude must still be my portion." These reflections were not always made alone, for Lucy had become acquainted with Owen the gardener. It sometimes happens that servants in every post in these grand establishments are corrupt except the gardener; whether it is that his occupation is particularly favourable to drawing morals from surounding objects, or his loneliness renders him contemplative, or both, but Owen was a most amiable and shrewd old man; like philosophers of all ages he looked upon the manners and conduct of the people who came in his way, rich and poor, and made reflections on them as if he was not one of them but exalted above them.

He had heard that Lucy was but a novice at service, so he pitied her and always took particular notice of her; and paid her particular attention whenever he met her; to him she imparted her fears about Betty, he sagely took the matter under consideration and resolved to set all right.

Lucy had no doubt of the success of such an experienced old man, she ran to him next morning to hear the result of his consideration. "Well Owen," said she, "have you settled the matter for me?" "Dear bless me!" said Owen, "you are mighty nimble minded, sure we must wait and wait, aye, may be this whole season before one thing matches another so as to do any good, but I tell you for your comfort, people seldom find wickedness answer them in this world and they never do in the next. You must depend on Providence, which is the best regulator ever came across me; but God wont do every thing for us, he helps us and that is no reason we must do nothing, and he will help us in his own time, his time it is fit we should wait for. Don't you know that if I never sowed that drill of parsley it would not have come up, and if I sowed ever so much and no rain or sunshine came down from heaven it never could come up either; and we must wait in patience for the natural seasons to come; sometimes we sow a crop by

fore winter and never see a sight of it till spring, so you must not despair, but your own faithfulness may turn out well all in good time. I tell you, young woman, you don't know what is in the wind." Lucy listened to Owen's harangue with the most devout attention; she felt herself in the midst of such comfortless society, that every word of hope or encouragement was like a ray of light which gave her fresh vigour to pursue her dismal way. Every night she had an argument with Betty about taking the child out and in spite of Betty's dreadful tongue, and Jane's shrieks she was resolved to prevent it. Mary sometimes overheard the dispute and would listen only to Betty's story who did not scruple to say she was rescuing poor Miss Jane from Lucy's cruel blows. Lucy was once or twice heard to say she wished there was any authority exercised over the children, or that her mistress would assist her in taking care of them. These speeches if literally repeated would have vexed the proud Mrs. Thomson but when they were misrepresented by the malicious tongues of Betty and Mary, they were indeed provoking. Mrs. Thomson thought she could bear Lucy no longer and gave her warning before the three months expired. Lucy was pleased at the prospect of a release, yet dreaded that she should encounter new difficulties. The only sensible people she heard speak were Owen and Dr. A—— and from them both she heard severe censures of the rich, and that even the best of them had little consideration for their servants for want of stooping to become acquainted with their real condition.

To be Continued.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

THE MARRIED DEMONESS.

Continued from col. V. p. 101.

MITRA, after some reflections, feared that those first ambassadors had not been pleasing to her husband, therefore she resolved to send others more considerable than they. Those also went with great despatch, and exhorted Nathan to return to his wife and mistress, by the most forcible reasons they could imagine. You totally lose your time, said he, coldly

to them, for nothing is more certain than that I will never return to her during my life. These ambassadors were obliged to return like the first, and said to their mistress Mitra, plainly: Do not think, madam, of sending any more ambassadors to this ungrateful man, for he loves you not, and we are even of opinion that he hates you. This answer made her run to her father to relate to him again what had happened, and to take his advice of what should be done. Asmodeus, after having continued in thought a little while, answered, I have a mind to assemble my army, and to go for him in person; if he will come back all will be well, if not, I will put him to death, along with all the inhabitants of his city, without sparing a single man, whoever he may be. Mitra entreated him to spare himself that trouble; God forbid, my lord, that you should take this great journey: would it not be more proper that you should send me with some of your ministers? as this is the most gentle method, I think it would be likewise the most effectual. I will use every effort to make him change his resolutions, and to cause him to return with me. To this her father consented, but he determined that his army should go with her, and accompany her as far as Nathan's city, and also that she should bring her son Solomon along with her.

This was accordingly done as he ordered. The night that they arrived at the gates of the city, the soldiers declared that they would enter it, put Nathan to death, and destroy all the inhabitants. Mitra felt the greatest horror at the proposed massacre, and forbade them from attempting anything without her orders. Do you not know, said she, that all the citizens are at present asleep? And you are not ignorant that they are all Jews, that they have all commended their souls to God before they went to sleep, and that consequently we can do them no injury while they are under his protection. Let us proceed in a different manner, and let us commit no sin; let us wait till it be day; and then we will immediately enter the city, and if we find them disposed to satisfy our desires, all will go well

without any violence; but if they will oppose us we shall then have a right to take measures to bring them to reason. All the troops cried out with one voice: you are our mistress, you are wise, and we will not pretend to do any thing but to execute your orders.

She then turned to her son Solomon, and said to him; my son, go find your father, and communicate to him my arrival. Recommend to him above all to keep his word, and not to violate the oath which he made, to return to me. The child immediately went, and finding his father still in bed, fast asleep, he wakened him. Nathan arose, and asked him with some tear, who are you, that have thus wakened me? The child answered him I am your son Solomon, and my mother who is the daughter of king Asmodeus, is your wife. These words troubled him, and caused him to be afraid; nevertheless he embraced his son, kissed him, and asked him why he had come to seek him. It was my mother your wife, who has sent me here, said he to inform you, that she is come herself in order that you may return with her, according to your promise. I will not go replied Nathan, I have never considered her as my wife, and I am not her husband; I am a man, and she is a sorceress, and beings of such different species can never accord together. Pardon me, my father, said Solomon, if I inform you that what you have said is not just; for is it not true that during the time you have lived with us, no one did you any injury or violence? All our demons always treated you with the greatest respect, considering you as the husband or their queen: is it not true, that my mother always honoured and cherished you extremely, and that my grandfather Asmodeus made you prince over all the demons, and charged them to obey your order: on all occasions? For these reasons, I entreat you, not to be displeased with my mother, nor treat her with disrespect: on the contrary, you should recollect all the great benefits that she showered on you. Is it not true, my good father, that my grandfather Asmodeus delivered you from the hands of the demons, who had

pronounced sentence of death against you, and who wished to take away your life? Has not my mother also preserved you, when Asmodeus himself desired to kill you for having disobeyed his commands? Tell me, I entreat you, what cause have you, for not keeping the promise, which you gave my mother, never to forsake her? Did you not solemnly promise, to remain here only one year, and then to return to her? Change your resolution, change it I beseech you, my dear father, you will see that it will be best for you to do so; and return with my mother without any apprehension of any ill consequence. My dear son Solomon, said the father, all these fine words are totally lost on me: you had better not have spoken to me, for I never will return with your mother. All my words, all my promises, all my oaths, were made but through the fear of death; wherefore as they were all compulsory, I do not think myself bound to keep them. I shall not dare to speak to you any more on the subject, my dear father, since you have forbidden me, but how great are the evils that I see you are going to draw on yourself by this conduct!

Solomon then retired and came to tell his mother all that had passed in this conversation. It may be easily judged how great then was the anger of Mitra. However, after a little reflection, she said, I will not put him to death before I have spoken to him in presence of all the people, that I may know his sentiments from his own mouth, and that I may also learn those of the people, when they shall have listened to my reasons.

When the sun had risen, Mitra entered into the city at the same time when all the inhabitants were assembled in the Synagogue: she caused the princes, and the chief officers of her army to accompany her, and in this state she proceeded to the place of the assembly. She said then to the lords, who accompanied her, wait for me here, I pray you, I desire to enter alone by myself into the Synagogue; I would speak to my husband, I would listen to what he has to say, and then form my final resolution. Having thus quitted

them, she entered the Synagogue at the instant they were finishing the psalms; and taking this opportunity, she called out to the chanter, who was going to recite the prayers, wait I pray you, and do not begin, until I have related my business to the congregation; it is sufficiently important to excuse this interruption. I shall wait willingly, said the chanter, speak and relate what you have to complain of. She then raised her voice and said; listen to me citizens of this town, and render me justice against my husband, of whom I have cause to complain; he is called Nathan, the son of Solomon. This man having fallen into our hands, on account of his evil deeds, received all sorts of benefits from my father Asmodeus, who compassionately delivered him from the hands of the demons, who desired to put him to death. I myself made him escape the anger of my father, who wished likewise to kill him, for having transgressed the positive orders which he had given him. In fine, he gave him to me as my husband, and made him a prince over all his forces. He espoused me according to the holy laws of Moses and of the Hebrews, and having received as my dowry a very considerable sum, he promised with an oath never to abandon me. Besides this, when he showed a desire to come here to see his first wife, he swore solemnly that he would only spend one year in his visit, and that he would return to me immediately afterwards: and to free your minds from all doubts, which you may have on the matter, consult those writings which I present to you, they contain the promises which he made me to return, signed by his own hand. Nevertheless he only returned those great obligations by the most marked ingratitude, in refusing to return with me. I then call upon you who are here present, to demand from him, why he has behaved in this manner, entreating you to obtain me justice this day, in conformity with those his original promises, which I present to you.

The Judges who were present in the assembly, caused Nathan to be

called, and demanded from him, why he was not willing to return with his wife, after having received such great benefits from her; and what he could say in his defence against the oaths with which he had twice confirmed his solemn promises to this purpose. Nathan answered immediately without any hesitation. Nothing is binding of what I have done, and of what I have sworn, having acted entirely by compulsion, and through fear. I knew well that if I did not do every thing that they desired they would immediately kill me. For this reason I demanded to be absolved from my oath, and obtained my desire: wherefore I will not return with her: and besides it is neither proper nor becoming, that a man should be husband to a sorceress, and that instead of children they should only beget demons. I declare, therefore; that I intend to remain here with my wife, who is of the same species with myself, and to beget children like to ourselves, according to the precepts of our holy law. Besides it is written precisely, (in Genesis ix. 18) *I will grant him the succour which shall be meet for him.* But she is meet for me, and I will not quit her. Let then the other depart, and let her take a husband of her own species, some handsome denon who will please her; but for my part I will live with my ancient wife, who alone has been the joy of my youth, and of my life.

Then the daughter of Asmodeus spoke to the judges in this manner; you surely will not hesitate to grant, that he who wishes to divorce his wife, should give her a declaration of the causes of her repudiation, and that he should also return her dowry. The judges all said, with one voice, that this was very reasonable. Then let him immediately, said she, write the deed of repudiation, and repay me my dowry: behold here is the marriage contract, which will prove the immense sums that he has received. The judges then said to Nathan, that he must either repay her dowry or return with her. He replied, that he had left all the property in her country, that he had

carried nothing away, and that he would give it all to her. I do not refuse to give the bill of divorce, which is demanded of me, said he, but I will never return with her.—The judges again gave him warning to take good care of what he did; for our laws, added they, decree that you should either return with her, or that you should repudiate her, in returning her portion. And that if you continue to be unwilling to do any thing, that she should have power to do what she chose to you. Mitra then took up the discourse and continued her address to the judges. It is sufficient for me to see that you are sensible of the justice of my cause, and that taking my part, you are ready to condemn him according to our holy laws, but I no longer desire that he come with me, since he has despised me, I only entreat you one favour, persuade him to give me a kiss, for the last time, and then I will return to my own country. The judges then exhorted Nathan to do what she wished, and to kiss her. She will thus be satisfied, said they, and you will be absolved from the sentence, which we have pronounced against you. Nathan consented, and went over to Mitra; he kissed her;—but at that instant she seized him by the throat, and twisting round his neck, strangled him in an instant; after which she said; this is the recompense of your ingratitude, for not having kept your word with me, for having violated your oath, and having disobeyed the commands of your father. You would have mocked me in wishing to abandon me, and leave me a widow, while my husband was alive. At present your wife is a widow and deserted. It is an ancient saying, *If anyone attempts to deprive me of my husband, may she perish, and may he neither contribute to her pleasure or to mine.* She then turned towards the assembly and said to them; If you wish to avoid the most terrible misfortunes, take my son Solomon and make him your prince, for he is descended from your race. Having killed his father, I do not wish that he should continue with me; his

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presence would renew incessantly my misfortunes, and occasion a continued affliction. Nevertheless I will make him my heir, and I will leave him such great riches, that he shall never want for any thing. You shall also take care that he shall receive a larger portion of his father's inheritance, than his brothers. The assembly accepted the proposal and solemnly established him prince over the people, in taking an oath of fidelity to him, and Mitra returned to her own country to her father.

By this history may be learned, that the command of a parent should never be violated, nor the oaths by which any one is bound, and that a promise should always be kept inviolably.

Concluded.

To the Proprietors of the Belfast Magazine.

AN ACCOUNT OF NEW OPTICAL DISCOVERIES.

GENTLEMEN,

It was observed by sir Isaac Newton, that when a convex lens, is laid on another, or on a piece of unsilvered looking glass; a set of concentric circles, or rings, each coloured like the rainbow, will appear; he also observed, that if the same apparatus is held between the light and the eye, another set of prismatic rings will also be observed; but the position of the several colours will be different; the former set being composed of reflected, and the latter of transmitted light. But Sir Isaac had not then observed the repeated reflections of the original primary set, which are now known to take place between the two internal surfaces of the upper glass, or lens; these can only be seen by using the shadow of a pen-knife, or a piece of black card, in the manner prescribed by Doctor Herschell, in his very ingenious paper on that subject (see Philosophical Transactions, vol. 95, from page 135 to 180). These prismatic rings may therefore be divided into three kinds, viz. primary, transmitted, and reflected; to which may be added a fourth to be described by and by. The colours of the transmitted sets, are always altered.

A A

nate to those of the primaries, that is, if the center spot of the primary is black, that of the transmitted will be white; red, and orange, will be opposed to green and blue, &c. But the primary and its *reflected* image, will be perfectly alike in every respect.

Sir Isaac Newton attempted to account for the phenomena of those concentric rings, by supposing them to be produced by the thin plate of air, between the lenses; but this explanation has been found quite unsatisfactory, as many new phenomena have lately been discovered, that are totally irreconcilable with that theory.

A paper on this subject was lately read before the Literary Society of Belfast. Wherein it is shown that if a very thin piece of good unsilvered looking-glass plate, is laid on a lens of forty or fifty inches focal length, a large set of primary concentric rings will appear, and by using the shadow of a piece of black card as above directed by Dr. Herschell, its *reflected* image will also appear equal in size and colour to the primary. The several rings of which the primary, and its reflected image are composed, will intersect each other. A beautiful set of equidistant parallel lines, or fringes will now appear, drawn through those intersections, and at right angles to a line, joining the centers of the primary and its reflected image, equal in number to those of the rings in each set, and extending indefinitely in length, to two or three times the largest diameters of the rings, and generally to the edge of the lens. The thinner that the piece of looking-glass is, the nearer will the centers of the two sets of rings approach to each other, and the wider and the more distinct will the fringes appear. These parallel lines or fringes are coloured exactly in the same manner as the rings from which they are generated; an idea may be formed of the appearance of one of those fringes, by conceiving a rainbow altered to a straight line. They are composed of two classes, divided by a point bisecting the distance of the centers of the primary, and its reflected image, and each of those classes having the red of each

particular fringe *outside*, or on the side furthest from the bisecting point. This experiment will not succeed well, unless the lower side of the lens, is painted black, to prevent the confusion which would otherwise arise from the appearance of a transmitted set of rings, reflected from the lower surface of the lens.

If a lens having both of its sides equally convex, is laid between two pieces of looking-glass, two primary sets of rings will be perceived, and the apparatus may be so managed, that the particular rings of each set shall intersect each other, as in the former experiment, in this case the same parallel fringes will appear. But if there shall be *any* difference in the convexity of the two sides of the lens, so as to produce the smallest difference in the diameters of the two primary sets, the parallel fringes will now be changed to a set of circles, or rings; whose diameters will be greater or less, according as the diameters of the primaries shall differ less or more, being least where that difference is greatest, and increasing in size, as the two sets of primaries approach to equality, but always appearing on the same side with the smallest primaries. And what is very singular, although now changed from a set of parallel lines, to a set of circles, those circles still retain the property of being divided into two classes, with respect to the position of the colours of each particular ring, that is, the entire set of these **intersectionary* rings, as they may be denominated (for they seem to depend entirely on the intersections of the two sets of primaries) are divided into a central, and an outside class, those composing the central class have the red on the inside of each particular ring, those of the outside class, have the red on the outside. These intersectionary rings, as well as the parallel fringes, are always formed between the surfaces which are in contact of the two lower glasses, and are generally seen from

* It is hoped the introduction of a new word is pardonable, when there is no other to express the idea.

twice to thrice the diameters of the primaries, from which they are generated, in which case the entire spot is covered with coloured rings to the center, exactly like primary sets, but if they are much larger, a few rings only at the circumference are seen, and when they are so large as to approach to straight lines, segments only of a few at the circumference can be perceived. Other sets of this new kind of rings, are also formed by the interference of the *intersectionaries*, either with transmitted, or reflected sets, in a beautiful and astonishing variety, which it is scarcely possible to convey an adequate idea of, without seeing the experiment. It is therefore even doubtful, whether the above description can be fully understood, without drawings, which are intended to accompany a future publication, wherein the experiments shall be more fully detailed. This short sketch may therefore be considered as only an *avant courdur*, of that which is to follow. I.K.

Belfast, Sept. 20, 1810.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

ON CONVERSATION.

CONVERSATION is a means of improving our minds, much superior to books, or even to reflection. In sensible conversation we are obliged to bring forth the stores of our minds in an orderly and systematic manner; to hear the objections of others, and either be instructed by them, or answer them.

If we have taken any thing upon trust, either from books or men; if we have viewed any thing superficially, and formed an erroneous judgment upon it, it is conversation that will show us our error; and, having made us abandon our weak possessions, will render us stronger in those that are tenable. By this means we become better acquainted with our minds, and more completely masters of our own ideas.

In the conversation of men of sense, hints are sometimes struck out, that would not disgrace the most profound philosopher; and I think we may say that they will make a stronger

impression on the mind, than when met with in reading.

Epaminondas esteemed conversation a very easy method of gaining instruction; and was on such occasions a diligent hearer of the sentiments of others. He never entered any assembly where any question of either politics or philosophy was discussed, without staying till the end; and we have reason to believe that his improvement was proportionate.

How much, then, ought we to repress every thing that tends to discourage rational conversation; drinking, smoking, gaming, the sneers of affectation, and the long, loud laugh of presumptuous ignorance. This practice of laughing in the midst of what ought to be *polite* argument, is often resorted to, for the purpose of gaining an unreal superiority. It is the means of a weak, untutored, and prejudiced mind to effect a cowardly usurpation in conversation, or to put a stop to it, when above its capacity. Such persons as would laugh in the middle of an interesting moral discussion, would probably with the utmost gravity descant upon the last new fashion, or the proper colour of gloves to be given at a wedding. As for drinking, gaming, &c. I presume they are seldom resorted to by those who are capable of any thing better.

One word more and I have done. In the present state of morals, perhaps the intercourse between the sexes ought to be cautious:—but surely it is a folly for a young lady to imagine she cannot converse with a young man without danger of inspiring him with a passion for her. We were made to improve each other, and our improvement is assisted by frequent, rational, and polite conversation.

E.C.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

REMARKS ON A JOURNEY.

TRAVELLING lately in one of those coaches, which have become so numerous within a few years in this country, and which by facilitating our transitions have made, and will still make us better acquainted with our neighbours; I fell into my usual employment and a

amusement, the inspection of character. We were silent for some time, until a gentleman of good countenance remarked, "what lovely weather we have for travelling;" this had no effect. "Although the sun is so bright yet there is a refreshing breeze," said he, again renewing the attack. I began to feel compassion for this worthy man, and should certainly have replied, but a middle aged, dry looking man who sat beside me, and who had upon the first remark told-ed his arms across as if determined to hold out a siege to the last, was not proof against the second discharge of contented good humour—"Yes," says he; "for any body who is in a hurry to swallow his peck of dust, this is fine travelling weather; but I can assure you if this drought continues much longer, the crops will be good for nothing; they are already almost burnt up, and the meadows will not be worth cutting." He uttered these words with such hurried peevishness and with such a look as to make us suppose he was not only dissatisfied with the weather, but with us. Silence ensued, but the good-natured advocate for the weather, obtained his wish in a few seconds, which was merely to procure a little chat, and with this his next neighbour now obliged him. I affected sleep, and fell into a reverie upon the great advantages attending a good temper; especially in the society of strangers it is of the utmost importance; an easy good humoured manner draws out whatever is agreeable in others; and in society it is a sort of a test, like the load-stone it finds out the particles of steel in a mixture of the filings of different metals and gradually produces a confidence which leads conversation from trifling and general subjects, to the useful and most important. In fact without this essential quality, a person has no business to travel in a stage coach. Good humour too, to borrow another simile from the load-stone, like one of the poles repels its opposite, and preserves the equilibrium.

Suddenly roused by the jolting of the wheel over a large stone upon

the road, and the exclamation from my neighbour who had been as silent as myself, of "Damn these bad roads." I found my opposite friend, for so I began to feel him, descending upon the pleasure of travelling in public coaches and passage boats, "For my part," said he, "I find nothing so pleasant, and I always meet with agreeable company in them; this world is sadly traduced and slandered by many talkers and writers. I never yet came into a coach, whose back seats were previously occupied, but that on telling how liable I am to sickness, I have been politely offered a seat wherever I wished." After listening half an hour to an interesting conversation between my opposite fellow-travellers, one of whom proved to be a man of learning, and great modesty, and who had visited many parts of the continent; we stopped at the stage for dinner. For experiment sake I privately said to my surly companion, "very hot sir" Confoundedly" said he, "what a bore travelling is in these coaches! a man is crammed in with the Lord knows whom." I dined quietly, and pitied the man whose bad temper deprives him of so much enjoyment, and absolutely makes the world about him almost as unpleasant as it appears to his jaundiced eye.

Z. Z.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

A DIALOGUE.

Miss A. Well Jane how do you like Mr. E.?

Miss L. I think he has a good person, and interesting countenance, and affable manners, but he is too plain for me.

Miss A. True, I was wishing him to go away, that I might hear your sentiments of him, for your fine discernment is capable of marking those little strokes of character, which are never observed by the common herd, who judge people only by their honesty in dealing, or such coarse standards of worth. Mr. E. wants a certain something which I cannot express.

Mr. D. I am glad you cannot express it, for I am so partial to our language that I should be sorry if it afforded any flimsy word, or sophisticated term which might represent Mr. E. to be any thing but an excellent young man; I assure you Mrs. T. he is a first rate character.

Mrs. T. I have no doubt of his worth when you speak so highly of him—you know right from wrong.

Mrs. D. We all do so when we allow ourselves, for my part I do not pretend to know much more, and I flatter myself that by keeping strictly to these points that I shall know them well; it requires more than ordinary talents to be able to refine upon them without refining them away. I prefer the honest man; plain and open in his dealings.

Miss A. Surely Sir we meet those honest people every day, while the elegancies of character are very rarely to be met with.

Mr. D. I assure you ladies there is nothing discovers so much of the real character as having dealings with them; it is very easy to make fine speeches, very easy to appear all benevolence, gratitude, and tenderness in a drawingroom; and to talk of justice too, but those who do all this with a very good grace are often found to be stingy even though they have abundance; and it is still oftener the case that these fine people have not resolution to sacrifice their own selfish appetites in order to be either just or generous.

Miss A.—What is money compared to feeling? And surely the feeling heart cannot refuse relief to the distressed.

Mr. D.—I don't wish to depreciate feeling, more than other excellent organs of good which are implanted in us, but which should only govern in their turn, and be guided or regulated by one another.

Miss A. I dare say Mr. E. is a very honest man, and that honesty is a very good thing, but we only speak of him as a companion in conversation, and you know there are a great many requisites go to compose a fine conversation, as a great many shades are necessary to the beauty of a picture.

Mr. D. Certainly; but how do you know that Mr. E. does not possess these talents which he did not shew at once; modesty might have prevented him from speaking freely to strangers; and perhaps no occasion offered for him to speak his sentiments.

Miss A. Many occasions offered, for we were talking of books and various characters. I observed his opinions were always delivered in a general way, the book has a good or bad tendency, the character was candid or close, good or bad, he described no spots on the sun, or no fine touches which had power to change his opinion.

Mr. D. All this strengthens my opinion of his steady adherence to strong principles which could not be shaken by good, or bewitching evil. Man is formed for serious purposes, and not to spend his senses in imaginary charms. I am convinced that the habit of thinking or speaking too refinedly weakens our strong principles. Endeavouring to discern and to describe every shade, so far from improving conversation, in my opinion, spoils it by making the speaker uneasy, and the minds of such people become by this habit too susceptible. Women, I believe, are more liable to this fault, and from hence may proceed their lability to take offence.

Mrs. T. I dare say this disposition may be thus traced, and I will add that the want of solid, or important employment may be the origin of this defect as we find when we are engaged in important concerns, we have neither time nor inclination to be too refined; it is only when we have little else to do that we fabricate, divide, and subdivide useless ideas.

Mr. D. I dare say that you who have had experience will join me when I say that I believe it would greatly contribute to the happiness of both sexes, if they were satisfied with plain things.

Mrs. T. Certainly so; whatever strengthens the foundation of our solid sense and goodness, must increase our happiness.

Mr. D. I must so far enter into the feelings of those young ladies as to

agree that there is a strong charm in that delicacy of conversation that proceeds from a fine discernment, but such a charm must be only sometimes tasted, like luxuries which ought not to compose our constant food, and which if not prepared by a judicious hand are much more disgusting than the plainest food. We are naturally disgusted at every instance of affectation, and those who act simply according to their nature and education are sure to please.

Miss A. I believe you are right, for I have often been uneasy when Mr. J. was going out of his depth in wisdom, or attempting to fly through the delightful regions of sentiment. Q.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

APPENDIX NO. 5. TO THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF ROADS, &c.

Extract of a Second Letter from Mr. Edgeworth, dated 1st May, 1808.

I THANK you for the report of your committee, of which, as I said in my former letter I had obtained a glimpse at Mr. Foster's. I see that Mr. Cumming has developed the bad properties of conical wheels in a manner perfectly distinct. This was done before by M. Camus, in the memoirs of the French Academy, which he afterwards republished in a book called "*Forces mouvantes*," in 1722 (in which book, by the by, there is an excellent *memoire* on the different modes of paving) but Mr. Cumming's method of shewing the effect of conical wheels on the materials of the road, by means of what he calls *Friction bars*, is new and extremely ingenious.

Mr. Russel's objections are completely answered in Mr. Cumming's second paper, in which, with his usual good sense, and with uncommon candour, he accedes to the truth of all Mr. Russel's facts, and to his conclusion, that he was a loser by using cylindrical wheels. Wherever cylindrical wheels are introduced upon fresh broken stones, or upon roads that are highly trunked or much sloping, the waggoner will always lose, because the waggon is employed in this instance not as a machine the best adapted for transporting loads, but as

a machine for levelling or rolling roads. The pretended conical wheels are, in reality, narrow wheels, with the occasional assistance of the remainder of the broad wheel, which prevents it from sinking in between the loose stones, and act like Mr. Milton's idle wheels.

You observe that Mr. Jessop and Mr. Milton, and every body of science are of one decided opinion upon the subject; Mr. Milton has clearly stated the object, which peculiarly lies before your committee, not to encourage bad carriages upon bad roads, but first to make the roads good, and then to accommodate to them carriages the most convenient for the horses, the carrier, and the roads.

I believe that if such roads were made, the best carriages which could be then employed would be, very light four wheeled waggons, the parts of which may be much slighter, because, when the roads are good they will not be liable to injury from obstacles or jolts. The timber and iron of a waggon that carries three ton need not be half as heavy as what carries six. The weight upon these carriages should be limited, by restricting the number of horses to four, except where great pieces of timber, cables or machinery, are to be transported. The limiting the number of horses will be far preferable to the employment of weighing engines. In certain hilly countries, the commissioners of the turnpikes may permit a fifth horse.

The axle-trees should be perfectly straight; the wheels should be made with spokes oblique in different directions alternately; the wheels should be six inches wide on the axle, and rounded off a little at the edges. The hind and four wheels should roll in different paths, which, upon perfectly good roads, would be no way inconvenient. The edges of the wheel should be rounded off to permit them to quit the ground more readily, and to avoid cutting the road when an accidental circumstance raises one side of the carriage higher than the other.

Mr. Bancroft has proposed to try experiments upon common roads with trucks, drawn by men; so far as the force requisite to draw the carriage concerned, this is a fairer experiment

than is tried by horses; but no experiment tried by models can be so satisfactory to the common sense of mankind, as experiments tried by waggons of full size upon a real road. For this purpose, it might perhaps be advisable to select half a mile of some great road near London that is sufficiently broad; to divide it into two parts by posts and rails, to leave one side to the ordinary mode of repair, and to make the other side perfectly flat, and of the best materials; and to render it smooth and compact by rolling it before carriages are admitted to run. At the ends of this experimental road, there should be temporary houses with bars, and no waggons or carts with any but cylindrical wheels should be permitted to pass, nor should any long coaches be admitted. During the month of January, for instance, two or more waggons of the construction already described, loaded with three ton each, drawn by four horses, should be constantly employed. The going and returning of these waggons on this road would be equal, perhaps, to the traffic on the common road; if the number of waggons here mentioned would not be equal to the traffic on the open part of the road, such a number should be employed as would make it so. At the end of this month the road should be opened to common carriages, and their effect during the ensuing month would determine the question. If the expense is objected to, by whom can the objection be made?—not by the rich, for good roads are amongst the greatest luxuries they can possibly enjoy; not by the poor, for the necessaries of life would come cheaper to market; the saving of horses is the saving of food; and no ingenuity of political œconomy in England can make it indifferent to the people, whether the land is employed to produce wheat or oats. Such a road, of such a breadth as I speak of, would cost four hundred pounds; and would, after the experiment, continue to be serviceable, so that the money would not be thrown away. The waggons and horses would be saleable commodities, and the real expense would be ultimately reduced to the support of these horses,

to their wear and tear, and that of the machinery, to the hire of the drivers, and of one person to superintend the experiment: the whole of which would, I think, be covered by four hundred pounds more. I forgot the expense of the posts and the railings; they might indeed be supplied by hurdles, which are also saleable. The object then might be probably completed for a thousand pounds. If the committee were to offer a premium for the discovery of a better method of laying out a thousand pounds, I apprehend that their premium would not very soon be claimed.

In 1770, I presented to the Society of Arts, a scheme for a splinter-bar furnished with a spring and an index, so as to point out the force employed by horses. This was afterwards, in my absence, put in execution, and tried in ploughing, and was found not to succeed, because its vibratory unequal motions could not be summed up. But I know a method of determining, with the utmost exactness, the comparative ease with which any two full grown waggons may be drawn; but I do not chuse to communicate it; and one of my reasons for not mentioning it, is, lest it should be used in preference to the large experiment I have proposed.

Indeed, without an experiment of this sort, that should be open for a length of time to the inspection of all people, to carriers and wheelwrights, as well as to theorists and senators, the public mind will never be completely satisfied. And it is now well known to the good sense of legislators, that the public opinion should accompany, if not precede, municipal regulations.

As your committee has a recess, I take the opportunity of adding some experiments to justify the opinions I gave in my former letter; and as I have learned from long experience, and know it to be the common sense of mankind, that mechanical experiments made with models are satisfactory, not only in proportion to their niceness and accuracy, but also in proportion to the degree in which they approach to the reality of what they are intended to represent,

I hope that you will not think the following experiments superfluous. They were tried with great care, and without any wish to support any particular theory or opinion.

Experiments on Cylindrical and Conical Wheels.

Having on a former occasion (vol. 2, *Trans. of R. I. Academy*, 1788) tried experiments on carriages in a manner similar to that which Mr. Cumming has employed, namely, by measuring the vis inertiz remaining in a carriage after a given force had been applied to it, and after it had overcome a given resistance; I had reason to think, that doubts might occur as to the conclusions formed from such experiments, and I therefore preferred the direct application of weight as the measure of resistance.

At the same time, I observed, that all the experiments tried by Camus, and those that I had seen in public lectures, and particularly in a set of experiments tried before the society, for the encouragement of arts and manufactures, the times of the descents of the weights employed were not taken into consideration. So that if it were required to ascertain which was superior of two models of carriages, to be drawn at the rate of ten miles an hour upon a table 16 feet long, it would be found that no weight that could be applied would draw either of them at that rate; because the weight, even without any incumbrance, could descend only sixteen feet in a second, and not so much if it were counterbalanced by the smallest weight or resistance. And seeing that a similar consideration should be attended to, where velocity was made the standard of comparison, I constructed an apparatus in

which the velocity was regulated by a vane impinging against the air, so that after a few turns of a circulating axis, the motion of the descending weight acquired no fresh velocity. By these means, when experiments were to be tried upon the resistance afforded to any body, the motion could be measured directly by the weight required to continue the velocity of the body in question uniformly the same, notwithstanding the resistance to which it was exposed.

I have now applied such an apparatus, to determine the resistance occasioned upon given roads by the different construction of wheels.

The descending weight was made to move uniformly by a vane striking against the air. It required a weight of four pounds to give this vane a velocity that would permit the scale that held the weights to descend at the rate of thirty feet in ten seconds, which is nearly the rate at which a common waggon travels. The road on which the carriages moved, was made to represent as nearly as might be a common road, the parts of which should be in proportion to the size of the wheels of the model. The carriage was double the size of that used by Mr. Cumming. Wheels $8\frac{1}{2}$ inches diameter, four inches in breadth, and $10\frac{1}{2}$ asunder; the axle-trees were turned in a lathe, and were fitted in brass boxes. The arms of the axle-trees quite straight, and nearly of the same diameter at the shoulder and at the linc-pin.

The weight of the carriage and the load together was sixty pound, double the weight employed by Mr. Cumming. The rims of the conical wheels were made to deviate from cylinders in the same proportion as those mentioned by Mr. Cumming, so as to preserve an analogy between his experiments and mine.

| Ex. | Time. | Space or Length of the Road. | Description of the Roads all of which were carefully made horizontal, both in Length and Breadth. | Weight of the Carriage and Load. | With Conical Wheels : 8½ inches Diameter inside. 6½ do. outside. 4 inches Breadth of Sole. Weight employed. | With Cylindrical Wheels. 8½ inches Diameter. 4 inches Breadth of Sole. Weight employed. |
|-----|------------|------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|---|--|
| 1. | - | - | A Road of smooth deal boards - - - - | - | 3 Pounds. | 2 Pounds. |
| 2. | - | - | A gravel Road slightly rolled, similar to the Road in Hyde Park during Summer. | - | 6½ | 6- |
| 3. | 10 Seconds | 30 Feet | The same Road newly raked up like a newly made gravel Road. | 60 lb. | 8 | 7 |
| 4. | - | - | The same with Gravel Stones scattered over it like a newly made coarse Road - - - | - | 9 | 9 |

Thirty feet in ten seconds is equal to two miles an hour.

It may be observed upon these experiments.

First, That the advantages of cylindrical, over conical wheels moving on smooth hard roads, appear in these to be the same as in Mr. Cumming's experiments, name'y as three to two.

Secondly, That on gravel roads the difference between conical and cylindrical wheels is not nearly so great as upon smooth roads.

Thirdly, That on rougher roads, where the stones do not give way, there is scarcely any difference between the cylinder and the cone.

The causes of these different results are obvious; on sandy and gravelly

roads the materials give way, and recede from the smaller part of the conical wheels as Mr. Cumming's balls recede: and on stony roads only cylindrical sections of the conical wheels touch the stone, the rest of the cone does not bear upon the road.

Upon the whole, I return to no former proposition, and do give decidedly as my opinion, that nothing but an experiment in large, upon a real road with real waggons drawn by horses, can ever determine the relative advantages of cylindrical, conical, or narrow wheels, to the satisfaction either of philosophical enquirers or the public.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF DISTINGUISHED PERSONS.

The following character of Doctor Haliday appeared in the Belfast News Letter, immediately after his death. To those who were acquainted with the worth of the man, no apology is necessary for inserting this well merited eulogium and tribute to his memory. It appears with much propriety in a Magazine published in a town, which he so long adorned by the urbanity of his manners, his high professional skill, and the soundness of his political principles.

It would be very acceptable to us, if any of his relatives, or others, would furnish us with further particulars of his life. We have heard he left in manuscript a tragedy, founded on the story of Lucius Junius Brutus. We should gladly publish it in our pages, if we had permission.

DIED on the—day of— 1801, aged 72, Alexander Henry Haliday, M.D. A gentleman, who, for the space of half a century, illustrated his native town of Belfast, by a character distinguished for private worth, consistent public spirit, much elegant accomplishment, and high professional reputation.

Of all the liberal professions, that of medicine is perhaps the most liberal. No one which, in a more eminent degree, combines the useful and the

amiable qualities, the solid talents which dignify, and the sweet courtesies which decorate character. No one which supplies more ample opportunity of forming a true estimate of human life, of appreciating the weakness and the worth of human nature. No one, which, in a political point of view, has maintained, amidst the selfishness of sects, and the intrigues of factions, a more virtuous independence and dignified impartiality. The general remark has never had a truer application, than in the life, conduct, and conversation of Doctor Haliday.

Of his professional merits, the profession itself must supply the most adequate judges, but the public at large, may perhaps form as true an estimate, from the long popularity, which, as a practitioner of physic, he possessed, not merely in his native town, but throughout the whole province of Ulster; a popularity, neither made, nor maintained by any sinister arts, by the patronage of the high ranks, nor by the puffing of the lower, but the well earned fruit of an excellent education, engrafted on an excellent understanding. His successful and extensive practice was the natural and necessary result of a shrewd and sagacious intellect, always kept in a state of the highest cultivation by the habit of reading and

reflexion, by joining the inquisitiveness of the student to the experience of years, and especially by a disposition of mind which desired to keep pace with the progress of science, and the medical art, and never from pride, or indolence, rejected improvement under the invidious name of innovation.

His exterior announced intrinsic worth. His art of healing commenced with infusing the faith of being healed. He possessed a mild and gracious dignity of manner, which commanded respect, while it conciliated confidence. How often has his presence instilled hope into the heavy heart!—How often have those black, and ill-omen'd ideas, that evil genius which strangely haunts even the most virtuous minds, felt the influence of his aspect, and fled from the benignity of his smile! How often have affectionate relatives, when bereft of all other hope, looked out with a last anxious hope, for a visit from Dr. Haliday! In propriety, in probity, in assiduity, in natural ability, and acquired endowment, few have better sustained the comprehensive character of an accomplished physician.

His talents and attainments were far from being confined within the circle of his profession, though they were never allowed to interfere with his duties. His powers in conversation so generally admired, were the product of a great sociability of nature, and a quick discernment, rendered still more acute by native wit, lively without libertinism, and sportive without sarcasm. His wit was a salt that highly seasoned the pleasures of the table without any corrosive malignity. He loved to play with words, as Scipio and the good Lælius are said to have diverted themselves with pebbles. In fact, he possessed all those various, and versatile qualities which render conversation interesting and delightful, good sense, facility of thought, taste, fancy, a knowledge of the world, a turn for agreeable anecdote, a happy frivolity, an easy and graceful vivacity. A man of such a mind and such manners naturally became the real resident representative of his native town. On every public occasion, when Belfast

wished to place itself in the most respectable point of view to visitors distinguished by rank, station, or talent, Dr. Haliday at the head of the table, was in his appropriate place, and his guests, however eminent, never failed to find in the physician of a country town, an urbanity of manners, a variety of information, a happy and opportune wit, a just tone and *timing* in whatever he said, which set him, at the least, on a level with those who possessed patents of dignity, or high official situation.

Thomas Hollis purchased the bed on which Milton died, and sent it as a present to Dr. Akenside, with a hope that it might prompt him to write an ode to the sublime asserter of British liberty. Dr. Haliday seems to have occupied the bed of Akenside. He wrote several poems with similar vigour of sentiment, and fire of public spirit, but it must be added, with the same, if not greater harshness of diction and ill-constructed stanza. Politics and poetry are seldom in happy conjunction, and he seems to have argued in verse, and reasoned in rhyme, rather more than is suited to poetry, and particularly to the poetry of the Lyre.

In his political principles he was a genuine Whig; not understanding by that denomination, the mere factionary of a powerful party, but the hearty hater of arbitrary power, whether exercised by individuals or by parties; the zealous yet judicious advocate of civil and religious freedom; the strong upholder of those popular principles which form the living spirit of the British constitution, and, which, at different periods, have called forth all the heroism of British story. It was at the civic commemoration of those illustrious epochs, in which Haliday gave his head and heart to the social celebration, while he supported at the same time the just prerogatives of the crown, as perfectly compatible with the original and ultimate sovereignty of the people. If the British constitution be a medium between republicanism and despotism, I will not scruple to assert that Haliday approached nearer to the former extreme. Nurtured under the phi-

osophy of Hucheson, and early inspired by the poetry of Akenside, the study of the former gave him that chastity of the moral sense which binds political and personal duty in the same strict tie of honesty and honour; and the divine muse of the latter, threw that sacred flame of liberty into his breast, which burned while he continued to exist. In the principles of civil and religious liberty he lived, and in them he died. They were the bond of his youthful friendships, and they consolidated the attachments of his maturer years. These were the associating principles of MacLaine, Bruce, Wight, and Plunket, the principles of the venerable Camden, and the amiable Charlemont, of the untitled Stewart, and the unpensioned Burke. These were the principles which gained him the confidence and correspondence of that great and good man, Henry Grattan, and the same principles led him to regard Charles Fox as the tutelary genius of the British constitution.

Dr. Haliday's character was completed by what is perhaps to be deemed the best man's best praise; the grace and goodness of domestic life, its uniform cheerfulness, its inestimable equanimity. To a most amiable woman, he was a husband at once polite and tender, affectionate and respectful; to his dependents, a kind protector; and to all his relatives a guide and guardian, an ever ready friend, and an adopted father.

Farewell, venerable and virtuous! admired, beloved and honoured, for wit, and worth, and wisdom. You have closed your reverend length of days, but your name will long live in hallowed remembrance; by me, ever to be regarded with filial reverence, for kind condescension, for paternal admonition, for friendly recommendation, and for life repeatedly restored.

1801.

The following copy of verses, from the pen of Doctor Haliday, is inserted as a specimen of his poetical composition.

TO MY FRIEND MACLAINE ON HIS TELLING ME HE NO LONGER AMUSED HIMSELF WITH WRITING VERSES.

Hague, Aug. 7th, 1750.

And is it so, my friend, indeed?

Thy muse who charm'd us is she fled?

Who charm'd with various art,
Whether the sounding lyre she strung,
Or vice with sharpest satire stung;
Alas how could ye part!

Where Glotta's flood the plain divides,
Amidst her oaks where Lagan glides

The fertile vale along,
Oft have we heard her tuneful strains,
Oft have we felt her joys and pains;
O wondrous power of song!

Tow'ring aloft on Rapture's wing
Did she of God and nature sing,

With love divine we burned;
Did lovely loving Metis claim
Her softer voice, that heavenly flame
To carnal love was turned.

Fired with an honest patriot rage
As now she lash'd a corrupt age,

Up indignation sprung;
Laughter, as merry tales she told,
Borrowed some wrinkles from the old,
And lent them to the young.

She's heard no more—say whence this change?

Does she through fields of Æther range,
And nature's laws explore?

Or is she back to Metis gone,
Her woes to weep, her sorrows moan,
'With whom she smil'd before?

With patriot and poetic fires
Perhaps bold Marcus* she inspires,

And hence his noble fury;
Or of her jokes and doggrels fond
Has entered in a judgment bond
To live and laugh with Murray.

As late near Leyden's lonely bound
I lay thus musing on the ground,

While o'er my pensive head,
Safe from the breeze tall poplars slept,
And close beneath the dull wave crept
Along its oozy bed.

"Vainly you guess"—descending said
A form in robes of light array'd,

Too glorious for my sight,
"A cherub now, a muse before,
Amidst the angelic choir I soar,
And praise the God of might.

"When he, for higher things design'd,

"The poet's idle fame resign'd
"Thus chang'd I pass the poles;

"Still I inspire for different ends;

"Before, he pleased his listening friends,
"But, now, he saves their souls." A.H.

LIFE OF VIEN.

THIS artist, who, 1789, was appointed to the place of first painter to the king of France, had such a decided inclination for the pencil, that nothing could surmount

his resolution to become a painter. His first performances of any note produced him far more reputation than profit. While studying at Rome, he one day made his confession to father Cherubin de Noves, definitor general of the capuchins of France, of a few sins apparently of no great importance, as the father did not seem to pay much attention to them. After the ceremony was over, the Capuchin observed, that the order wanted six pictures of the history of Saint Martha, for their church at Tarascon; "but," added he, "our benefactors have so little money to give, that I dare not mention the sum to you." "Well, father, but how much is it?" "Four guineas a piece." "And of what size?" "Ten feet high, by eight wide." "Your benefactors are determined not to ruin themselves! However, father, you take an interest in the affair, and I will paint them."

A still stronger motive with *Vien* for this undertaking, than his inclination to oblige the adroit friar, was his wish to try his strength, and learn from the public opinion, whether he had not acted wisely, in relinquishing the practice of the French school for the study of nature and the antique. Accordingly he set about his work with such diligence, that he fell ill, and was obliged to quit Rome for a little while, before he finished the series. Out of the four and twenty guineas he received, his remuneration was just thirty shillings, the rest being expended on materials. These paintings, which acquired him much reputation, were all finished off hand, without being previously sketched.

This undertaking accidentally gave rise to his *Sleeping Hermit*; which was the favourite production of Mr. Vien. Being desirous of some characteristic heads for one of the pieces, he met with a hermit while rambling without the walls of Rome, whose countenance struck him, and who consented to sit to him. The Hermit was fond of music, and one of the young pensioners made him a present of an old violin, with which he amused himself in the painter's work-room. One day, while Vien was copying a foot from the hermit,

the violin suddenly ceased its sounds. Lifting up his head, he perceived his model fast asleep, precisely in the same attitude as is represented in the picture. The posture appeared to him striking; he laid down his palette, took up a crayon, and immediately sketched the whole figure. In the course of a week the painting from this was finished, as it now appears in the gallery of the Conservative Senate.

On his return from Rome to Paris, Vien was feasted every where, and among the rest by his capuchins at Tarascon. The good fathers did not omit this opportunity of engaging him to paint another picture for them. This, the embarkation of St. Martha, was larger than the others, being fifteen feet by ten; and when it was finished, father Cherubin in consequence offered him double price for it. "I have no longer the advantage," observed Vien, "of a pension from the king; and therefore must not entirely neglect my own profit; however, I shall charge you only twenty guineas." This sum was accordingly paid.

His *hermit* was much more admired at Rome, and in the country, than at Paris, where the academicians had no idea of copying nature. "I cannot conceive," said his old master, Natoire, to him, "how you could copy the figures on your second and third grounds from nature." "I find it much better," answered Vien, "than a drawing on white or gray paper, from which I can learn nothing with respect to the colour of objects."

Another time, when he was painting a picture for a prize, his companions said to him: "It is easy enough to do as you do, imitate nature." "What would you imitate then?" answered Vien.

Madame Geoffrin, a lady much respected among men of letters, going one day to see his *hermit*, which count Caylus had highly praised to her, said to the young artist: "when you are become familiar with our painters, I have no doubt you will change your style." "I madam! Do you think I have spent five years at Rome studying and reflecting on my art, to change so easily?"

I find you do not know me: happily I have employment for some time; and if I afterwards find, that, because I will not imitate others, I have nothing to do, I will go elsewhere: the world is the country of the arts; I am a single man, and my wants are so small, that I shall find a living any where."

Another time the same lady requested him to paint her a head in the style of Vanloo." "I am very sorry, Madam," said Vien, "that you have taken the trouble to come up hither,* for Mr. Vanloo lives at the bottom of the house." "I know it, sir." "Then, madam, you have given yourself unnecessary trouble. You must be sensible that if I were so weak as to do what you desire of me, I could only produce a poor imitation of the respectable artist, of whom you wish to have a head. For my part, madam, I paint only *Viens*." "You are very high." "A hundred and forty seven steps, madam." "Well, Sir, since you paint nothing but *Viens*, paint me a head in the style of Vien." "With pleasure; madam." In the sequel madam Geoffrin and Vien became intimate friends. Delatour the

portrait painter, had bequeathed to the academy four hundred guineas, the interest of which was to form an annual prize: the subject to be alternately a half length from nature, and a figure from the antique. The director of the academy, after having kept the money eight years, proposed to return it to the heirs, as a useless gift; and most of the academicians assented, that they might not offend the first painter of the King. Vien alone ventured to oppose this step. "What, gentlemen!" exclaimed he, "would you give up a legacy you have accepted, when you are conscious the intention of the donor was to promote the progress of the art! Mr. Delatour has endeavoured by his generosity, to lead our youth to paint from nature, and draw from the antique; and you, conservators of the sacred fire of the arts, refuse to co-operate with him! What then is the use of the academy? Do we meet only to bid one another good morning and good night?" This speech had it's due effect, and thence forward a prize was distributed every year agreeably to the design of the testator.

DETACHED ANECDOTES.

SLYNESS.

AN ecclesiastic of the severe evangelical class, as it is affectedly called, by a constant face and style of odorous sanctity, as if he was utterly abstracted from the world, was considered as an absolute saint by his people. On his death bed, the conscience of this holy man, broke through the restraints, in which it had been held, and brought to his view many secret transgressions, which the world knew not. He was alarmed; he could not conceal his fears: he shrunk from the real approach of that other world, to which in spirit he was thought to have been long removed: his surrounding friends were astonished: they wondered that so holy a man could

have any apprehension of his future state. "Ah!" cried he, "but I have been sly!" *G. Walker's Essays.*

COETLOSQUET AND D'ALEMBERT.

Coetlosquet, who died in 1784, having nearly attained the age of ninety, after being promoted to the bishoprick of Limoges, filled the honourable situation of preceptor to the French princes. He was a friend to literature, and to its cultivators, beneficent without ostentation, pious without severity, and as free from party spirit as from ambition; goodness, modesty, and moderation formed the base of his character; and amid the religious disputes, that so long distracted his country, he confined himself to praying for the reconciliation of the contentious parties.

One day some person was attacking the principles and character of

* His lodging was at the top of the Louvre.

d'Alembert, when Coetlosquet was present. "I am not acquainted with the man," said the bishop of Limoges, who was not at that time his colleague in the French academy, but I have always heard, that he is simple in his manners, and irreproachable in his conduct. As to his works, I read them over frequently, and find in them a great deal of wit, eminent talents, and excellent morals. If his heart be not in unison with his writings, he is to be pitied; but God alone has a right to look into his conscience."

DUELING.

When the *marquis de Douze*, condemned to be beheaded at Paris for killing his brother-in-law in a duel, was on the scaffold, the priest urged him to confess the murder, that he might give him absolution. "I a murderer!" exclaimed the indignant Gascon: "it was the finest battle ever fought in Guienne."

GENEALOGY OF BONAPARTE.

A French genealogist has lately discovered, that Bonaparte, or Bellaparte, is a translation of the Greek *Calomeros*; that Constantine Comnenus had a brother named Calomeros, whom, on his arrival in Corsica from Greece, he sent on an embassy to the Medici at Florence, who by the by likewise sprang from a Grecian family of the name of *Isiroi*; that Calomeros, in imitation of his friend and countryman, Italianized his name into Bonaparte; and thus it is evidently demonstrated, that the present emperor of the French is a descendant of the family of Comneni, who once swayed the sceptre of the East.

ORIGIN OF ROME.

If we admit the vulgar tradition respecting the foundation of the metropolis of the world, it is difficult to conceive how a handful of outcasts could support themselves against the powerful nations around; and that the city should have attained in so short a pe-

riod the splendour it appeared to have under the last of the kings. These considerations have induced Mr. Levesque, professor of morality and history in the college of France, to suppose, that the origin of Rome has a much earlier date, than is commonly assigned it. His hypothesis is, that Romulus and Numa are imaginary persons. From the resemblance of these names to the Greek words *rhomoe*, strength, and *nomos*, law, the foundation of the city was probably ascribed to these allegorical personages, who were afterwards considered as real beings. This city, supported by the Etruscans, of whom it was a colony, had undoubtedly acquired considerable importance before the reign of the elder Tarquin; otherwise this king the sovereign of a part of Etruria, would not have quitted his metropolis of Alba, to reside at Rome. The religious rites, and civil customs, copied by the Romans from the Etruscans, tend to support this hypothesis.

BARON.

The vanity of this celebrated French actor procured him a niche in the romance of Gil Blas, under the name of Carlos Alonso de la Ventoleria. He used to say that a player was a man brought up in the lap of kings. "I have read," added he, "histories of all kinds, ancient and modern. Nature appears to have been in all ages prodigal of heroes, and great men of every description, except actors: but of these she has been very frugal, for I can find only Roscius and myself." A *Lettre à My lord *** sur Baron et la Demoiselle La Couvreur*, par George Wink, Paris, 12 mo, 1730, which is now very scarce, contains many curious anecdotes of this hero and heroine of the stage. The real author of this work was the abbe d'Allainval.

POETRY.

THE NEW LILLABULLERO, 1800; AS APPLICABLE TO 1810.

HO Broder Teague do you hear the decree?

Lillabullero Bulen al ha,

United men we shall all of us be,
Lillabullero Bulen al ha
Lero, Lero, Lillabullero, lillabullero, bulen al ha.

Says England, since union's de ting dat
 you want,
 By Jasus, I'll g've you a belly-fall on't.
 And if green is de colour you like, by de
 mass,
 You'll be pleas'd when all Dublin is
 covered with grass.
 But says Teague, now by union what is
 'it dey mane,
 Sure 'tis binding three nations all fast in
 one chain.
 'Tis a scheme which quite bodders one's
 brains fait' and troth,
 For its worse for de one, yet its better for
 both.
 Is not Johnny Fitzgibbon gone straight to
 de K—g?
 O between 'em, how nately they'll settle
 de ting.
 He'll drive a rare job for us all, you may
 swear,
 And anoder as good for Lord Chancellor
 Clare.
 Arrah, since we've a parliament not to
 our mind,
 Sure to take it away, now, is wonderful
 kind.
 Would a minister wish for his jobs better
 toels
 Dan a cargo of knaves—when exported
 by fools.
 And, by Christ we'll not send him such
 blundering elves,
 Who will tink of deir country, and not of
 themselves.
 Oh when Paddy in Westminster takes
 his own sate
 By my soul, he'll enliven the English de-
 bate.
 Should the spaker call order, he'll huff and
 look big
 Till he makes every hair stand on end on
 his wig.
 Should a member presume on his speech
 to remark,
 Sure he'll beg just to meet him next day
 in the park.
 For a Park, like our Phoenix, in London
 they've got,
 By Jontlemen us'd for exchanging a shot.
 Won't it be a vast biniist now for our
 trade,
 When all laws to promote it in England
 are made.
 You have seen, Teague, a cur to whose
 draggled backside,
 Butcher-boys have a broken old cannister
 ty'd.
 Now if England's de dog, whom French
 butchers assail,

Will not we be de cannister tied to her
 tail?

Not a great while ago, sure, we heard a
 vast dale
 About renunciation, and simple repeal.
 But this scheme now will strike every
 orator mute
 And the union will settle this simple dis-
 pute.

And 'twill den to our fierce orange yeo-
 men be known,
*Dat in cutting our throats deyoe been cutting
 dere own.*

Lillabullero Bulen al ha,
 Lero lero, Lillabullero, lillabullero, bulen
 al ha.

TO RESIGNATION.

COME meek-eyed maid,
 Thou sweet resemblance of a dying
 saint!
 Who claims thy aid,
 Shall ne'er on life's tumultuous voyage
 faint;
 But cheerly on shall go; for thou shalt
 bring
 Full draughts of comfort from the Elysian
 spring.

Come, heaven-born maid,
 Impetuous vice before thy power shall
 fly,
 Each passion laid,
 The adoring penitent shall calmly die,
 Whilst hope's fair tints, shall o'er his
 features play,
 And Heaven's bright sun shall gild his
 parting day.

By thee sustain'd,
 The captive pris'ner keeps a tranquil
 heart,
 Of nought arraign'd;
 Thou draw'st injustice' sting and heals't
 the smart,
 Nor shall he droop, supported still by
 thee,
 'Till better days shall give him liberty.

Taught by thy pow'r
 We e'er shall shun the wretched lure of
 pride,
 And in that hour
 When death shall strike, be thou our
 lucent guide,
 Our pilot still: then, steady we shall soar
 To realms where guilty passions reign no
 more. A PRISONER,

LA VERDURE.

C'EST la verdure
 Qui nous annonce avec gaité
 Le doux reveil de la nature;
 Le trône de la volupté
 C'est la verdure.

Sous la verdure
Zephir eteint les feux du jour,
Mais son haleine fraîche et pure,
Ranime tous les feux d'amour,
Sous la verdure.

Sans la verdure
Point de myrthe, ni de laurier,
Comment orner la chevelure
De l'amant, et du guerrier
Sans la verdure?

Sur la verdure
L'innocence timidement,
Cueille des fleurs pour sa parure,
Par fois elle en perd jouant
Sur la verdure.

Sur la verdure
L'amour a trouvé le bonheur,
Depuis cette heureux aventure
L'Esperance a pris la couleur
De la verdure.

A Translation or imitation of the foregoing elegant Stanzas is earnestly requested.

BOAST not, fond youth, the Fairy power
Of wit, or worth, or feeling fine,
Say canst thou fix a widow's dow'r?
Are *Settlements* or *Bank-Stock* thine!

If thou not share Potosi's mine,
Nor offer Love a golden show'r,
Talk not of charms, or bliss divine
Thou wast not born in fortune's hour.
A. R.

ON THE TIMES.

BY MR. B— OF B— D.

O TIMES! O manners, honest Cic'ro
cry'd,
When his lov'd Rome lay bleeding by his
side;
When sire with son in fierce contention
stood,
And Roman plains were drenched in Ro-
man blood;
But to exclaim, O times, O manners now,
When none can fear the haughty tyrant's
brow,
When every hill, and every valley smiles,
And peace and plenty bless these happy
isles,
To cry O times, O manners, now, displays,
Your own ill-temper, not good George's
days.

ANSWER,

BY MRS. B— D.

WHEN Cæsar Rome's imperial spirit
broke,
And bowed her haughty neck beneath his
yoke,
BELFAST MAG. NO. XXVI.

"O wretched times," desponding Cic'ro
cry'd,
When Rome's best blood but swelled her
Tiber's Tide.
Yet generous Brutus struck one well aim'd
blow,
And instant vengeance laid the tyrant
low,
But when oppression tries each deeper art,
To poison, not to stab each honest heart:
When virtue is so rooted from the ground,
That hardly can one generous vice be found;
And trust of gold in every sordid breast,
Like Aaron's rod, has swallowed up the rest;
Then, then, exclaim O hopeless times indeed!
Far deeper is the wound which does not bleed.

ADDRESS TO A HARP.

FAREWELL my harp! farewell my
only treasure!
No more with thee I'll cheer my weary
mind,
No more with thee I'll wake this sprightly
measure,
For I must leave thee, sweetest friend,
behind.

Thy strains no more shall lull each rude
emotion,
And give the tear of rapture to my eye;
From thee I go across the stormy ocean
Where no loved friend shall hear me when
I sigh.

Oft o'er thy strings in silent rapture
musing,
The poet's dream would o'er my fancy
steal,
And thy soft tones a gentle balm diffusing
Those sorrows softened which they could
not heal.

The noisy follies of the world disdaining,
To thee how oft for solace would I fly,
And while I listened to thy soft complain-
ing,
How would'st thou hush the agonizing
sigh.

But hopeless now, forlorn, and broken-
hearted,
From thee, in vain, I seek my lost repose,
Remembrance lingers over joys depart-
ed,

Joys that but aggravate my present woes.

Farewell my harp! farewell my only
treasure,

No more with thee I'll cheer my weary
mind,

No more with thee I'll wake the sprightly
measure,

For I must leave thee, dearest friend, be-
hind.

Cc

E C.

SONG.

TUNE, "ERIN GO BRAH."

NOW Spring smiles once more, said the
youthful reformer,
The bird feeds the nestlings she shields
with her wing ;
Around their fond parents, that dread no
alarmer,
The kids and the lambkins disport in
spring ;
But I'm left defenceless, in your tow'r
forlorn,
Immur'd lies my father, from home harsh-
ly torn ;
But while pow'r's selfish minions his lofty
head scorn,
True patriots for *Burdett* will civic
wreaths bring.
Yet boast not, misanthropes, who've torn
the GRAND CHARTER;
The friend of mankind, whom you've
chain'd in a cell,
Would midst his electors come forth as a
martyr,
Ere for all your places their rights he
would sell ;
The proud, who on war waste the poor's
blood and treasure,
May toast his destruction, at banquets of
pleasure ;
But poor men, whom *Bankruptcy* pains
beyond measure,
Will bless Peace's friend o'er their coarse
scanty meal.
The craz'd constitution, an edifice bend-
ing,
He strove to support, and with wisdom and
lore
Trac'd each time-torn crevice he purpos'd
amending.
And each long fall'n wreck that he meant
to restore ;
Then false men who sapp'd its unstable
foundation,
Forth issuing, forc'd him to leave his high
station,
And bade him insultingly, preach reno-
vation
To Sydney's stern ghost in the dark
gloomy tow'r.
Yes in that dark tow'r, whose strong walls
everlasting,
Have stood through long ages the just to
surround,
All the miseries of bondage and calumny
tasting,
The *Burdetts* of other years press'd the
cold ground,
Thence *More*, mild opposer of vice and
delusion,
And bold *Raleigh* stalk'd to unjust execu-
tion ;

O! my sire! my wrong'd sire! should
thy blood in profusion
Flow timely like theirs, thou'lt like them
be renown'd.
But hark how you concourse cries "*Bar-
dett for ever!*"
And see how each ensign's inscrib'd with
his name!
He is free!—he is free!—O! ye powers,
never, never,
Again may the prison a pure patriot
claim!
Once more, with one voice they cry *Bar-
dett and freedom!*
Let them thus tell their wrongs and he'll
duteously heed 'em ;
A whole injur'd people bid Britain's God
speed him,
And cloath her deceivers with terror and
shame.

Hallycarr.

TYRTAEUS.

SELECTED POETRY.

*The two following pieces from the hand of the
inimitable Gray, are not generally known,
at least do not appear in the common edi-
tions of his works.*

WITH beauty, with pleasure surrounded
to languish,
To weep without knowing the cause of my
anguish,
To steal from soft slumbers, and wish for
the morning,
To close my dull eyes, when I see it re-
turning,
Sighs sudden, and frequent, looks ever
dejected,
Words that steal from my tongue, by no
meaning connected,
Ah, say, fellow swains, how these symp-
toms beset me?
They smile—but reply not; sure *Delia*
can tell me.

THIRIS, when he left me, swore,
In the spring he would return,
Ah, what means that springing flower,
And the bud that decks the thorn?
'Twas the Nightingale that sung,
'Twas the Lark that upward sprung!

Sur tes genoux, belle *Berthe*
A des couplets, on s'engroït en vain,
Le sentiment vient troubler le *Genie*,
Et le pupitre egare l'*Ecrivain*.
Plac'd on thy knee,
Fair *Emily* ;
I ne'er can be a verse inditer
Reclin'd on pleasure's brink,
I feel too much to think,
And the soft seat distracts the writer.

REVIEW OF NEW PUBLICATIONS.

Review of a Treatise on the Principal Diseases of Dublin; by Martin Tuomy, M.D.T.C.D. and Fellow of the King's and Queen's College of Physicians in Ireland.

THIS appears to be an excellent practical book, useful both to young practitioners, who, in general, read too much; and to the elder, and more experienced, who, as generally, read too little. To the former, it must be of service, by presenting in a moderate compass, a faithful history of diseases (not as the title page would seem to indicate, peculiar to Dublin, but such as are generally met with in common practice) with the most approved method of treatment, thus concentrating and fixing upon what is most valuable in the study of physic, that attention, which is apt to wander till it loses itself in a desultory course of medical reading.

Reading is, or at least, ought to be,* a mere stimulus to mental exertion, storing indeed the memory with useful and well authenticated facts, not *fancied facts*, but such as may exercise the judgment, strengthen the intellect, and improve the talents for combination. In such reading, there is perhaps required a discriminative taste rather than a hearty appetite. Many young men experience a sort of bulimia for books (if we may venture an expression so nearly related to a *bull*) in which the inordinate hunger is accompanied by a very weak digestion. The reasoning powers are, in the mean while, suspended, and at length as it were suffocated under heaps upon heaps of other people's ideas, wheeled into the shop of memory, where they remain, indistinguish'd, unassorted. The minds of such readers are apt to lose by disuse their natural energies, and thus proceed through their whole lives,

vibrating from system to system, or from the use of one empirical medicine to another, and resembling, on the whole, in their quick attractions and repulsions, nothing so much as the electrified chaff that plays between the plate, and the prime conductor.

Such a clear, and compendious view of the practice of physic as this of Dr. Tuomy's, may prove equally useful to older practitioners, who are apt to read *too little*, often by want of leisure from the hurry of professional avocation, and perhaps not less frequently, from repeated disappointments in theories founded on a partial induction of facts, and in facts seen only through the medium of theories. In early life, we are too fond of supposing a most recordite science can be opened by the master key of a single principle, and upon mastering a few facts, often forced into our service, we instantly begin to generalize and form a system which seldom fails of encountering, in the course of a few years experience, so many rude shocks from one quarter or another, as to topple to its foundations. The old practitioner is therefore apt to neglect systems altogether, and to adopt, in their stead, a self-sufficient and dogmatic empiricism. Wearied with being driven through a round of false systems after having experienced the futility of his own, tired of being compelled in practice to ring the changes upon all the metals (with the two additional bells of Mr. Davy) having coursed through all their oxyds, from the oxyd of arsenic to the oxyd of bismuth, he will now set himself to do, what he should have done at first, viz. *reason upon the individual case*, not so much for the support of a system, or for the formation of general rules, as for adding, ant-like, one valuable fact to the heap he may have already collected.

Such indeed appear to be the complicated nature and functions of the human frame; such in its morbid state are the changes of form and place which diseases assume; such also is the frequent and ready convertibility of diseases into each other,

*—Who reads incessantly, and to his reading brings not a spirit and judgment, equal or superior, discontent and unsettled still remains, Deep sens'd in books, and shallow in himself, Cruel to intoxicate, collecting Toys And trifles for choice matters, worth a sponge, As children gathering pebbles on the shore.

that we should ever be on our guard, in taking up such books as the present, against the too confident attempts of fixing *specific characters* upon different maladies, such as are apt naturally to produce an empirical uniformity of practice in all such cases, without a constant attention to the individuality of each particular habit and constitution, as well as to the concurrence of other affections that always must more or less influence the mode of practice to be adopted. There may be a general similarity, but there is an individual difference which often sets at defiance all dictionaries of definitions. In books of practice, like the present, all seems, distinct, perspicuous, and well defined, but in practice itself we shall find nothing so deceitful as Nosology.

Thus, for example, not only individual cases differ almost entirely from each other, though under one nomenclature, but there are great and frequent changes in epidemic maladies, not only in the progress of time which seems to wear out the virulence of most such diseases, but from the circumstances of society. The progress of civilization and refinement tends not only to change the type of epidemics, but often to banish them entirely. Dysenteries for example, are seldom or never epidemic at present, and the more general habits of cleanliness, ventilation, and better established police in great towns, in pavement, cleansing, &c. have in a great measure modified the character of such maladies as were once highly malignant and generally mortal. It is also to be observed that often there are *peculiar* symptoms superadded to an acute disease which are readily propagated *along* with the prevalent fever, and most materially modify its character and mode of treatment.

This advice, to reason only on the particular case, without regard to nosological distinction, would seem to lead to an unlimited variety of practice. But on a due consideration of THE UNITY OF THE VITAL PRINCIPLE, with an accompanying attention to the peculiar structure of the different organs, the regularity or irregularity in whose functions depends upon the

excess or deficiency of *this principle*. the practitioner may, thus, perhaps attain to a greater simplicity in his views of diseases, and of consequences in his methods of practice. Without having his attention distracted, and his practice puzzled by the mere nomenclature of diseases, he will probably consider them as referable to one principal cause, viz an irregular distribution of the vital power, and the general phenomena consequent upon this derangement of equilibrium, or irregular expenditure of living energy.

Life is certainly an occult quality, but not more than gravity, electricity, magnetism, the intimate nature of all which remains to be discovered. When the essence of animation is found out, the proximate causes of diseases will become apparent; but until that time, we must be content with observing some of its different relations, or in other words, the laws of the animal economy.

Life is a power, tending to self-preservation; health is the equipoise of this vital power through all the bodily organs. When the functions of any one of these, particularly of the most important, are injured, or destroyed, from the morbid effects of internal or external agents, otherwise called *remote causes* of disease, there is readily called forth a restorative or recuperative energy in the constitution. This acts most frequently by an excitement of either *local*, or *general* FEVER, the first usually called inflammation. The vitality is either exerted in the organ itself, or if that fail, the vitality of the whole system is stimulated into exertion, and comes in succour to the lesion of the particular organ. In the organ itself, the preternatural action relieves the morbid congestion by natural *evacuation*, that is, by an increased exhalation or excretion into the adjoining cellular substance. But if this increased action of the organ itself fails to restore equipoise, the general vitality of the whole system is stimulated into exertion, from its unequal accumulation, and *general fever* is produced. This operates a natural cure; in the same manner as in *local* fever, by *evacuation* of some kind or other, as by the skin, bowels, or

kidneys, which evacuations, though in distant parts, and in a longer space of time, yet end by relieving the organ originally affected, and thus again, though with greater difficulty and hazard from the frequent violence of action, the balance is restored, and the system again put in order.

The art of medicine is derived from a sagacious watchfulness of the process of nature in curing diseases, and the professors of this art are divided into two great sects, according as their attention has been directed most, to one part or to another of the process which nature makes use of. They attend either exclusively to the stimulative action, or to the evacuant termination; and strange it is, but such is the fallacy of physis; or rather such is the wonder-working power of nature, that both the stimulant and depleting systems of cure have been successful in practice, however discordant in theory. It is an extraordinary and curious fact, lately brought forward to observation, that modes of practice so very opposite as the stimulant and evacuant plans of cure, should both seem to operate in the same way, or through the instrumentality of the same medium, viz.: by restoring the balance of the system through the production of fever. It seems to have been ascertained that a fever of vitality, as it may be called, can be excited by a bold use of one powerful evacuating remedy, blood-letting; a practice so bold, as would scare most regular physicians, who, in general are careful of hazarding fame and fortune by hardy experiments, but individually, keep to safe, though rather timid and inert methods of cure, and, in consultation, are two easily satisfied "with an ineffectual result of neutralised opinions." It is, in general, surgeons, or physicians who have been bred surgeons, that have suggested the happiest improvements in the practice of physis. The palliating physician often perpetuates the evil.

When the common evacuants of vomits, purges, and sudorific medicines have failed of discussing the disease and restoring the balance, it has been found that the supplementary fever excited by large and frequent blood-letting has superseded the

morbid one, by placing the system, under the influence of a new, and in its effects, a restorative, and salutary action. In many chronic ailments also, the cure seems to have been wrought by this superinduction of fever, not by the means of stimulants, but of evacuants, principally that of blood-letting. When a large portion of blood is abstracted, the blood-making process, or all the powers of life concerned in the formation and elaboration of it from chyme to chyle, and from that to its change of colour and quality in the pulmonary system, all these powers of life are by the *via medicatrix* of nature called into action. Hence a new determination of the system, which operates by suspending and taking place of the morbid action, which is thus broken in its succession and series of symptoms, and thus a cure more readily takes place, if the process of nature be properly pursued by her servant and interpreter.

This supercession of one disease upon another, the milder fever upon the more dangerous, which, in consequence, decays and dies, is a new field of medical study, and a more perfect knowledge of the convertibility of diseases will perhaps yield important discoveries, and enlarge the powers of the medical art. The variolous fever has been thus subdued, and overwhelmed by the fever of vaccination. It is, in this manner, that the operation of that universal stimulant, mercury, is often so successful, by exciting what may be named the *mercurial* fever, while the morbid one succumbs, under the influence of the artificial one. Were we capable, as perhaps we shall be, of inoculating a fever of a known salutary termination, that would *speedily* take place, anticipate, and overrule a fever known to end fatally, it would appear an invaluable discovery, thus to conquer one complaint by the instrumentality of another. No diviner glory could descend on the medical art, than to turn into blessings the hitherto accounted evils incident to humanity, and to make maladies themselves medicinal. In fact, nature herself, takes generally this method of operating her cure, by transforming one complaint into another, compa-

ratively innocent; as is testify'd by every critical metastasis. The study of the morbid and of the salutary *metastases* (but particularly the latter) will give new hints to the sagacious practitioner, in relieving the affections of the more vital parts by anticipating the methods of nature, and where her purposes would, though curative of the primary disease, prove fatal in the secondary (such as in empyema from pneumonic inflammation) to take, as it were, the management out of her hands, and by large and timely evacuation of blood, prevent the natural crisis.

Medicines themselves seem to operate by exciting a counter action in different parts of the system, during which local determination, thus artificially excited, the general morbid action is, at least, suspended. Medicines may be considered in the light of *transitory disorders*, during the continuance of whose action, the general disease is broken and enfeebled, and by their repetition, may frequently be overcome. But, in general, their effects are too short, and the intervals of their repetition, too long and too frequent, sometimes by timidity of the practitioner, often through the necessity of the case, and the disease thus occasionally, and impotently counteracted, often acquires additional strength. Thus it happens with most of the *internal* stimulants, as in the use of fermented and distilled liquors, volatile alkali, cantharides, aromatic oils, ether and opium. In all these, it would be dangerous if not impracticable to keep those internal parts of the system to which they are directed, under their constant and unremitting impression, which could alone efficaciously counteract the morbid affection; and with respect to *external* stimulants such as cold and warm bath, blisters, cataplasms, caustics, there is the same difficulty of overcoming a formed disease of the whole system by a fugitive impression on a part. The stimulant course is for the most part hazardous and inefficacious. The thing wanted is permanent, safe and general stimulus, which is alone adequate to cope with the morbid systematic affection.

The nearest approach to the command of an *artificial fever*, is by the timely use of mercury, and the mercurial fever, thus excited, seems to put the whole system under a new action for a sufficient length of time, to subdue completely the morbid disposition, but the same inconveniences attend its administration, so that sometimes the largest doses fail in exciting the specific fever, and that it is not sufficiently speedy in its operation, for the urgency of particular cases.* When indeed mercury is introduced fully into the system, and pushed on to *salivation*, it then becomes a very powerful medicine of the evacuant class, and will have all the good effects of depletion, but still, I am willing to ascribe its beneficial effects, chiefly to the new febrile action, and permanent general stimulus thus excited, which more constantly counteracts the morbid action, and at length supersedes, and displaces it. This effect no doubt is much assisted by the local excitement, and inflammation of the glands of the mouth and throat, by which determination also, the morbid action is abstracted from more vital parts. Yet although the salutary action of mercury in such cases, is probably owing to its permanent diffusible stimulus and fever thus excited, it is to be remarked, that its effects are never so fully accomplished, as when preceded by some previous evacuation, such particularly as *that by the lancet*, which mode of depletion will ere long

* In a case of traumatic tetanus, which occurred lately in the dispensary of this town (and which by the bye, bore a striking analogy in its symptoms to hydrophobia) as soon as the administration of opium by the mouth became impracticable, the powers of life suddenly sunk, before the effect of the mercurial stimulus (used by way of friction) could be substituted in its stead, and I have, since that time, supposed that a free and bold abstraction of blood (which the plethoric habit of the patient, at any rate, did not preclude) might have contributed to a more accelerated action of the mercury, and thus given a salutary change to the morbid and unnatural nervous excitement.

take place of the purgative plan, so much at present in medical fashion. It is a means of depletion much less indirect and circuitous, more speedy in its operation, more under command, and, on the whole, less debilitating.

In these climates, Mercury has been made use of principally as an *evacuans* medicine, in the form of calomel combined with jalap, scammony, or aloes, and Dr. Tuomy in this treatise seems to follow in his methods of cure the formula of Dr. Hamilton in his essay on purgatives which has recommended, with such effect, the evacuant plan of cure, in many diseases where the stimulating course had been before adopted, and which has done much in turning the tide that now so strongly sets against the Brunonian practise. The era of infatuation is now nearly past when one hundred drops of Tinct. Opii in a glass of spirits was deemed the grand arcanum vitæ, elixir salutis, (though in reality only taking place of the ancient theriacas, and mithridates in a liquid form) when the sick room was turned into a wine and often a spirit cellar; when a cool regimen externally, was accompanied with the most ardent internal medicines; when apoplexy was treated only by stimulants, as a disease of debility, and the lancet prohibited entirely even in the most notorious congestions; when catarrh by the continuance of severe cold was often changed into pneumonic inflammation, and incipient phthisis, instead of frequent and moderate venesection, was managed by beef stake and brandy; the time is almost over, when

this Boutefeu of Physic, the Burke of the medical world, fascinated by his decisive tone, the young and often the more experienced practitioners. We honestly aver that we are much more disposed to be disciples of Doctor Sangrado, than of Doctor Brown.

It continues to be, as it has been, our firm belief, that the lancet, the first of evacuant remedies, has been too seldom used, not only in the first stages of fever, but in many other diseases, in many varieties of dropsy, in diabetes (as lately ascertained by Watt) in Hydrocephalus, and particularly in that insidious, and disguised catarrhal affection, which generally precedes the constitutional pulmonary consumption. We may also safely assert, that morbid fever never can be repressed successfully but by the means of an evacuation, and it is, we again observe, by sagaciously noting the different terminations of diseases made by nature, adopting her more favourable ones, at an *early season of the disease*, thus superseding one affection, by another comparatively milder, by a new action produced or by means of appropriate medicines, and principally those of *depletion*. It is by this method, that we, by art, anticipate nature, make the materia medica operate as vires medicatrices, and thus play with the Esculapian serpent, after having robbed it of its fangs, and its poison. *Homo, naturæ minister et interpres, tantum facit et intelligit quantum de naturæ ordine, re vel mente observaverit, NEC AMPLIUS SCIT AUT POTEST.* BACON. X

DISCOVERIES AND IMPROVEMENTS IN ARTS, MANUFACTURES, &c.

Patent of Mr. John Slater of Birmingham: for an Improvement in Hanging and Securing Grind-stones.

Dated Feb. 1810.

MR. SLATER describes his method of hanging grind-stones in the following manner.

I cause each grind stone to be hung through its center upon a spindle in the customary manner, tight wedging

excepted; I then place on each side of the grind-stone a flat piece or a washer, of wood or other substance of a soft or yielding nature, which must extend in a circle from the spindle hole in the grind stone to any degree or part of its diameter, as may be found most convenient, to form a bed or equal bearing upon wood or washer, before mentioned.

I place on each side of the grind-stone a flat ring of iron, or other metal, wrought or cast, about half an inch thick. To each ring I add a strong gripe, or bracing piece with screws, formed of a strong circular plate of iron, or other metal, corresponding in diameter with the rings before described. Each gripping piece must have a hole in its center, of a proper size and figure to admit the spindle of the grind-stone. And also as near as convenient to and round the circular edges of each griper or bracing piece, I cause holes to be made at small distances, of a proper size and form to receive or admit screwed nuts or burs fitted and screwed to them so as to hold and admit of strong screw pins or bolts, which must be made to screw pointedly, or in a direct manner towards the before described rings and grind-stone. The bracing pieces may be made occasionally without the nuts, as their necessity depends upon those plates being made of cast iron. The gripes or bracing plates being made, I then place them upon the rings, one at each side of the grind-stone, the spindle of the said grindstone passing through them all, which are then to be secured completely tight and firm to their places by cotters through, or screws fixed to, the spindle of the grindstone, on the outside of the whole gripping or bracing pieces on or against the rings or washers, so as to press, and hold the grind-stone between the apparatus on both its sides.

Patent of Mr. Benjamin Flight, of St. Martins Lane, Westminster, Organ Builder for a Metal Nave, Axle, and Box for Wheel carriages.

Dated Sept. 1809.

In this method of securing wheels to the axles, the axle is made hollow for a certain distance at each end, into which hollow part a large pin enters, having a projected head, which keeps the metal nave from being forced off: at its other end this pin has a groove turned on it, in which a cap is made to fit so as that the pin turns round freely with it, and which cap is divided longitudinally, that it may be put on or taken off

when desired; when the cap and pin are in their places within the hollow axle, a bolt passing vertically through the hollow axle and cap keeps the pin from being drawn out, and thereby prevents the wheel from working off. The pin itself is made hollow for the purpose of containing oil; which is put into it by an aperture at the center of its head, and secured from coming out by a screw that fits tight into this aperture; a small hole is drilled through the side of the pin into the oil box, through which the oil passes between the pin and axle, the pin being fastened to the nave so as to turn round with it, and the oil being consequently required inside as well as outside the axle.

Observation... There does not seem to be any advantage in the pin being made to turn round with the nave, to counterbalance the disadvantage that must arise from the additional friction which this will occasion, and for the expense of the divided caps and their fitting which this mode of construction makes necessary. If the pin did not turn round, the bolt might pass through its end at once, which would be much simpler. Making the pin of size sufficient to contain an oil box would render it necessary to make the axle of a large size, in order to be sufficiently strong, but it is not certain that this would be so disadvantageous as it might appear, as the friction depends more on the weight of the carriage than on the extent of surface of the axle.

Mr Davy's Discoveries relative to Muriotic Acid.

Phil. Mag. 36, 152.

The conclusions drawn by Mr. Davy from the series of facts contained in the valuable paper which he read before the Royal Society (and of which an account was given in our last number) are highly deserving of attention, and are as follows:

1st. The oxymuriatic acid is, (as far as our knowledge extends) a simple substance, which may be classed in the same order of natural bodies as oxygen gas; being determined like oxygen to the positive surface in Voltaic combinations, and like oxygen,

combining with inflammable substances, producing light and heat.

2dly. That its combinations with inflammable bodies are analogous to oxides and acids in their properties, and powers of combination, but they differ from them in being for the most part decomposable in water.

3dly. That hydrogen is the basis of the muriatic acid, and oxymuriatic acid its acidifying principle.

4thly. That the compounds of phosphorus, arsenic, tin, &c. with oxymuriatic acid, approach in their nature to acids, and neutralize ammonia, and other salifiable bases.

5thly. That the combination of ammonia with phosphorus acidified by oxymuriatic acid, is a peculiar compound, having properties like those of an earth, and is not decomposable at an intense red heat.

6thly. That oxymuriatic acid has a stronger attraction for most inflammable bodies than oxygen; and that on the hypothesis of the connexion of electrical powers with chemical attractions, it must be highest in the scale of negative power; and that the oxygen, which has been supposed to exist in oxymuriatic acid has always been expelled by it from water or oxides.

The following errata arising from the original paper on this subject, are to be corrected in our last. p. 146, l. 43, for nine read nice, and l. 46, for mine read some.

On the Art of Printing on Stone, by G.O. Phil. Journal, xxvi. 317.

The following circumstances respecting the art of printing on stone, which seem of considerable utility, and which have not been noticed by M. De Serres, in the paper inserted in our former number, are mentioned by G.O.

He tried the ink made according to M. De Serres direction (which was considered so great a secret) but he prefers to it coloured turpentine, copal or lac varnish. Muriatic acid he finds preferable to the nitric, as it both has the advantage of not acting upon the resin or wax, which forms the base of the varnish used, and is cheaper.

After purchasing some pieces of

marble, he was very much vexed to find that both the muriatic and nitric acid left some veins untouched, and only partially dissolved others; this must be attended to in selecting the blocks. He finds some pieces of the limestone from Clifton near Bristol, take a tolerable polish, and dissolve readily.

He thinks Chavron's method, used on stone, or even on lead, to be the easiest and cheapest for those who wish to have a card or cyphers, &c. printed. A small piece may be executed in a quarter of an hour; and if wetting is not sufficient to prevent the ink from adhering to the block (in the spaces between the letters) it will bear sponging, and yet leave enough of the ink upon the figures.

Method of Increasing the Durability of Tiles; by Count Von Mellin.

Sonin's Journal, Oct. 1803, p. 243.

Count Von Mellin thinking the method of increasing the hardness, and consequently the durability of tiles by glazing, not sufficiently cheap and simple for common use, though very effectual, resolved to try the effect of tarring the tiles, which he had heard recommended, on one of his roofs that required considerable repairs.

Having provided some of the largest brushes, he and an assistant set about coating the upper surface of the tiles with tar liquified over a gentle fire, and kept moderately hot. Four persons were employed to hand up the tiles, and when tarred, to lay them in the sun to dry; which took three or four days, it being then the spring of the year. The best of the tiles, or those which appeared most thoroughly baked were set apart (without being tarred) and the others were exposed to the sun, that they might be warmed, and receive the coat of tar more easily. After the process these appeared as if coated with a reddish brown varnish. Four hours were sufficient for the preparation of two thousand.

Near the Count's house was a tile kiln, which was just ready to draw. As soon as it was sufficiently cool to allow the tiles to be handled, he had as many taken out, as left in the interior of the kiln, sufficient room

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for a few people to coat them with tar. While two of these were tarring the tiles, three others were employed to give them, receive them, when tarred, and lay them in a corner of the kiln, where the heat was reduced to that of a vapour bath. When the kiln was quite cold the tiles were perfectly dried, but they had not such a shining coat as the former, because the great heat had caused the tar to penetrate their substance. Their pores were completely stopped, and they were rendered impenetrable to water. The five persons mentioned tarred four thousand tiles in six hours. Both these experiments did not consume a barrel of tar.

The roof for which these were used, is open to north, and exposed to all the violence of rains and storms. It was repaired in 1779, and not one of the tarred tiles is at all injured or decayed. They are covered with a very fine mass, and their surface is in as good condition as if the tar had been just laid on. On the other hand, several of those which had been set apart, supposing that they would resist the weather without any preparation, because they were thoroughly burned, are cracked, broken at the corners, or splintered on the surface.

Some persons think that tarred tiles would be the more durable, if they were powdered with iron filings and charcoal dust; but Count Von M. conceives that these substances would render the surface rough; and thus detain the water, while those coated with varnish would let it run off. He is of opinion however, that a mixture of lime and tar would be more beneficial, and thinks too that tats in general, whale oil, or the dregs of oil, would be equally adapted to the purpose, and still cheaper.

Observations... It is obvious that coal tar would do equally well as pine tar, for the purpose above mentioned, and be much cheaper, as has been remarked by the editor of the *Philosophical Journal*; coal tar will soon be easily procured, on account of the increased use of coal gas lights, in preparing which it is furnished in abundance, and which lights must, from their many advantages in time

supersede all other artificial lights for manufactories. The process recommended in this paper, must be also very beneficial for making bricks more durable in the fronts of new houses. But for the fronts of old houses, the method suggested by the Count at the end of his paper is preferable, as the oil would admit of the addition of red ochre, or some other colouring matter, so as to restore or improve the original colour of the brick work.

Letters respecting De Luc's Electric Column; by Mr. Forster.

Phil. Mag. xxxvi. 75.

Mr. Forster states that, "notwithstanding the changes which have happened in the state of the atmosphere, the small bells, which are in communication with De Luc's electric column, have continued to ring without ceasing from the 25th of March to the moment of inspection on the 23d of July. Although we have had of late heavy rain, accompanied with thunder and lightning, we have not had any very damp weather, which seems to be the most likely to stop the motion of the small clapper, by depositing moisture on the insulating parts of the apparatus. Mr. Forster mentions a mistake which he made in his first account of the electric column, (which is inserted in our 4th vol. p. 301) having there mis-called the ends of the column: as he has named that the zinc end, which should have been called the silver end, and the reverse. So that the effects on the electrometer of the coated jar, respecting the *plus* and *minus* states, were just what might have been imagined they would be. The mistake was owing to the silver and paper being connected together; for had the two metals been united, and the paper separate, the instrument would then have resembled more the usual construction of a galvanic trough; and Mr. F. would not then, he thinks, have been led into any error respecting the names of the ends or the poles of it.

M. De Luc has used paper covered with the copper foil, called Dutch gold, in his experiments, which though not so powerful as the silver

leaf, is preferable from its greater cheapness.

Artificial Cold.

Phil. Mag. xxxvi. 76.

Professor Leslie of Edinburgh, in continuing a series of experiments on the relations of air and moisture, has lately been led to a very singular and important discovery. *Without any expenditure of materials*, he can by means of a simple apparatus, in which the action of certain chemical agents is combined, freeze a mass of water, and keep it for an indefinite length of time in a state of ice. In the space of an hour he has, on a small scale, formed a cake of ice six inches in diameter, and three quarters of an inch thick. With very little trouble he can produce a permanent cold of 90 degrees of Fahrenheit below the temperature of the air, and might easily push it to 100 or 110. The professor is now engaged in prosecuting these fruitful researches, and will soon, it is hoped, favour the public with an account of this process, and of its chief results.

Observations. This discovery of professor Leslie, is of the greatest importance, if the facts stated of it are correct; which from the connections the editor of the *Phil. Mag.* is known to have with Edinburgh is extremely probable. For a method of freezing water *without any expenditure of materials* by a simple apparatus, must afford a never failing and inexhaustible supply of fresh water at sea, and thereby save much stowage in ships, contribute extremely to the health and comfort of seamen on long voyages, and render the operation of blockading enemies' ports, on which much of our security depends, more certain and effectual.

This invention will also be of great use in the salt works, affording a cheap method of bringing brine to the point of crystallization; the manufacture of nitre will also experience a similar benefit; as will all chemical processes of the same nature. And by its use the concentration of spirits, and of vinegar, may be performed more readily, and every species of distillation may be much accelerated.

The many benefits to be derived from a discovery so perfect, as this is announced to be, will, it is hoped, excuse this notice of it, preceding its description, contrary to the usual order of this department of the magazine; but it must be owned they naturally occasion some doubts whether the Edinburgh correspondent, or the editor of the *Phil. Mag.* may not have been mistaken in his assertion of this great degree of cold being produced *without any expenditure of materials*.

Observations on the Effects of Magnesia, in preventing an increased secretion of Uric acid, by Mr. W. T. Brunde. *Phil. Mag.* xxxvi. 8.

Mr. Brunde has in this paper given farther particulars of the success of this medicine in calculous diseases, of which some account was given in a former number.

Four cases are related in which magnesia had the most beneficial effects; after the alkalis having been tried in vain. In the first case fifteen grains of magnesia were given three times a day; in the second case twenty grains night and morning; in the third case twenty grains every night the first period of taking it, and twenty grains night and morning at the second period. The fourth case being very remarkable from the magnesia having given great relief in the gout, as well as in the disease it was intended to remove, is selected for insertion at large.

CASE 4.

A gentleman aged fifty six, after recovering from a severe fit of the gout, voided constantly a large quantity of mucus in his urine, a symptom which he had never before noticed. There was also occasionally, abundance of red sand, consisting principally of uric acid, but he never had voided a calculus. His stomach was uncommonly weak, he was often affected with the heartburn, and an almost constant pain in the neighbourhood of the right kidney. He had been in the habit of taking tincture of bark, and other spirituous medicines, from a belief that the pain in his right side arose from the gout in his stomach.

He had already attempted to use

the alkalies, which had produced such unpleasant sensations in the stomach, that he could not be prevailed on to try them again in any form.

Under these circumstances he readily acceded to a new plan of treatment. He was directed to omit the use of spirituous medicines, and to take twenty grains of magnesia three times a day in water, but this operating too powerfully upon the bowels, the same quantity of magnesia was taken twice a day only, with an addition of five drops of laudanum to each dose.

This plan was pursued without intermission for three weeks, and he received considerable benefit, as far as concerned the state of the stomach, and pain in the region of the kidney. The urine, which was examined once a week, was also, on the whole improved; but it occasionally deposited a very copious sediment, consisting of uric acid, with a variable proportion of mucous secretion.

After a further continuance of the dose of magnesia for three weeks, the urine was often much loaded with uric acid and mucus; but these appearances, which before the use of the magnesia were continual, are now only occasional, so that the disposition to form a redundant quantity of uric acid is much diminished: it is also deserving of remark, that *there has not been the slightest symptom of gout* from the time of the last attack, which is more than a year back, a longer interval of ease than the patient has experienced for the last six years.

He has now discontinued the regular use of the magnesia; but on perceiving any unpleasant sensation in the stomach, he returns to it for a week or ten days, and then again leaves it off.

Mr. Brande tried the effects on the urine of various doses of sub carbonate of soda, with an excess of carbonic acid, of potash, of lime, of magnesia, and of carbonic acid; from which it appeared that the lime had very little effect, either in the form of chalk, or lime water, that the carbonic acid (which was found to be very grateful to the stomach) caused the phosphates to be voided in

solution in the urine; but when it was left off at any time, they were voided in the form of white sand, that the alkalies occasioned too copious and sudden a precipitation of the phosphates; and that the magnesia, even in very large doses, neither produced so rapid an effect on the urine, nor so copious a separation of the phosphates, as the alkalies did: and on this its value as a medicine in calculous disorders seems materially to depend.

African Hemp.

A species of hemp manufactured from the leaves of a particular kind of palm, which abounds in Sierra Leone, and its neighbourhood, has been recently sent to England; and being made into cord, subjected to experiments calculated to ascertain its strength, as compared with the same length and weight of common hempen cord, the result was very satisfactory, it being found that hempen cord broke with a weight of 43 pounds and three fifths, while the African cord did not give way to less weight than 53 pounds two fifths, making a difference in favour of the latter of 10 pounds in 43 pounds.

An account of the Method of Manufacturing Salt at Montiers, in the Department of Mont Blanc. By M. Berthier, Mine Engineer.

Journal Des Mines.

Continued from p. 148, No. XXV.

The brine that runs along the ropes speedily evaporates, and leaves on them a crystalline deposition of muriate of soda which increases continually. In very fine weather, a boiling will yield all its salt in 12 or 16 hours; in general 27 boilings are passed in 45 days. By that time the ropes are coated very thick, so as to be sometimes 0.06 metres (2½ in.) in diameter; they are then stripped of their salt, which operation is called *abatue*, or a fall of salt. A small and very simple machine is used for this purpose, which has the advantage of stripping 46 ropes at once. It is formed of a piece of wood which serves as an axis to a large pulley cut in half, so as to form a

semicircle only. This axis turns in a rectangular frame, and is furnished with iron plates. The machine is hoisted to the top of the shed by means of a moveable roller. The principal piece is then placed between two rows of ropes, and two men rock it from side to side by drawing alternately the rope that runs over the pulley, while at the same time they permit the machine to descend slowly. The salt on the ropes being shut in between the frame and the axis armed with iron, is broken by the shocks, and falls on the floor of the shed. If any remains in some places, a workman beats it off with a tool which also serves to clear the top of the ropes where the machine cannot be raised on account of the roofing. They make from one to three falls in a year according to the seasons. When it rains there is scarcely any evaporation, and the shed is kept closed by means of the blinds which are rolled up in fine weather. It is because the rope shed was originally constructed for the purpose of evaporating the saturated brine from the boilers, that pumps could not be used to raise the brine. It was feared that the salt crystallizing in the pipes would embarrass the motion of the pistons.—The salt from the ropes, and that which crystallizes in the cisterns is collected into a storehouse used for that purpose only.

In every boiling a deposit sticks to the bottom of the boilers, which comes from the *schelot* that is not entirely taken away, and from the evaporation of some portion of the brine in contact with the iron plate and more strongly heated than the remainder of the liquid. Every 12 or 15 boilings, this sediment is knocked off by means of a hammer, and heaped up in the yard under the name of (*ecailles*) scales. The thicker these scales are, the more the boilers are injured by the fire. The bottom gets hotter, dilates unequally, becomes uneven and frequently cracks, so that the brine runs into the fire. When the workman perceives this, he increases the heat under the crack, that the expansion of the metal may close the crack; but

if this does not suffice, it is stopped by means of small bags filled with quicklime put into the boiler.

The mother waters are all conveyed into a single cistern, where they are left the whole winter without being touched. They deposit three different sediments successively, the last of which is crystallised sulphate of soda (Glauber's salt) nearly pure.—This is taken away at the beginning of spring, and deposited in a separate warehouse, along with such pieces of the same salt as they can pick out from the other sediment. The cistern is then emptied and the contents flung away.

As to the *schelots*, they are flung into the yard of the boiling houses, where they form considerable heaps, of which no use is made. That which is last formed is the only part of them that is collected, and put aside along with the scales.

The salt works do not work up all the brine yielded by the springs. In the winter, the smallest spring is sufficient, because the gradation goes on very slow, and the sheds will scarcely keep two boilers in use, and even these are sometimes stopped.—In summer the evaporation goes on quicker, so that all the four boilers are in almost constant use; and the small spring not furnishing sufficient water, some of the brine from the larger ones is brought into use; but even in the most favourable weather, not one fourth of the brine is worked up.

The wood used for fuel is a mixture of larch and fir, barked and cut in lengths of between 1.2 and 1.3 metres, which are split. In general it requires 50 steres for a boiling in summer, and as far as 68 in winter when the air is cold, moist, and rainy.

The following experiment was made in the summer of the year 13, and all the substances weighed with great care.

Substances Consumed.

4690 myriagrammes of brine at 20° hydrom. containing 1050 of saline matters.

50 steres of wood, viz. 25 for the preparatory boiling, and 25 for collecting the salt.

Products.

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 34 of schelot containing | } 34 of saline substances. |
| 790 of salt. | |
| 21 of scales. | 21 |
| 51 of mother water. | } 20 |
| | |
| | 865. collected. |
| | 185. lost. |
| | 1050. |

This loss is greater than in actual practice, the scales were calcined before they were weighed, and the mother water would not be accurately collected.

Each boiling produces in the rope shed, on a medium, 1750 myriagrammes (17 ton) of salt, viz. 1650 deposited on the ropes, and 100 in the boiler. But this salt is much purer than that made by boiling, and the mother water is more in quantity. the common fall of salt is 15,000 myriagrammes (150 ton) of salt.

The annual produce is from 4 to 5000 myriagr. (scores of lbs.) of schelot, or the rakings: from 2500 to 3000 of scales that stick to the boilers, 70,000 of salt collected in the boilers, and 30,000 from the rope sheds, and from 9 to 10,000 of sulphate of soda, or Glauber's salt, besides the mother water.

The faggots in the sheds No. 1 and 2 are changed every three years, as they become rotten in that time, and the sheds themselves are obliged to undergo a thorough repair every 5 or 6 years.

The faggots in No. 3 become so thickly coated in 3 or 4 years that they must be changed; but the wood-work becomes coated with sulphate of lime, which preserves it.

The faggots in No. 4 are useful for a longer period; it is said that they would last more than 18 years if the brine were constantly graduated up to 14°.

30,000 faggots are used annually, which cost 75 fr. per thousand.

To be Continued.

On the causes and prevention of the Curl in Potatoes, from papers by Mr. William Hollins.

Trans. Soc. Arts, No. 8.

The first cause of the curl in po-

tatoes must be traced to the manner in which the seed was raised in the preceding year. If the potatoes be set late in the season, that is from the middle of May to the middle of June, in a rich soil well manured, having a southern aspect; and if the summer should be hot and dry, till (we will suppose) the beginning of August, when the blow of the plants has fallen off, then the seed will be exhausted in feeding the plant only, and very few potatoes will appear. Should the weather now become moist and genial, the plants especially if they should be earthed, will blow afresh, and a plentiful crop of very large potatoes may yet be produced.

These potatoes are perfectly fit for use as food; but as they were produced from the stalk of the plant after the seed itself was exhausted, they will be defective in moisture and vegetative power, and the plants which proceed from them the following year will be found to be curled.

The curl may be produced without manure or earthing: provided the potatoes be sown (at the end of May) thick together, in a rich soil, and covered with fern, or other litter before the plants appear. The rain rots the fern or litter, and enables it to penetrate to the roots; and the plants are forced as in the preceding experiment, to a second growth, and blow. The seed thus raised produced plants that were curled.

The forcing potatoes by cultivation as above described, the author finds to be the cause of the curl, both from his own experiments, repeated for several years successively, and also from the observations he made on the practice and ill success of his neighbours.

Both healthy and curled plants may be raised from the same potatoe in the following manner.

Dig up, in the beginning of October, some potatoes raised as above described. Among the largest will be found some, that have in different parts, different degrees of moisture, the least at the butt, and the most at the crown end, the quantity of moisture gradually increasing from

the butt to the crown; take one set from the crown, and another from the butt; the former will produce a healthy, the latter a curled plant.—The curl producing potatoes are also observed to be drier both before and after boiling, and are boiled in a shorter time.

The mode of preventing the curl in Potatoes.

The following directions for cultivating potatoes, designed for seed (for which alone they are intended) duly observed, will effectually prevent the curl; as found by various and repeated experiments, made with great care and attention for seven years.

The best time of setting is from the beginning of April to the middle of May; make ridges a yard asunder, put the manure first into the trench, and with moderation; set the potatoes in a triangular form, five or six inches asunder; cover them with the soil to the thickness of five or six inches. There is but little danger of laying on too much of the soil: the deeper the sets are, the better will they be protected from the scorching heat of the sun, if the season should be dry. This distance of five or six inches is so small as to prevent the plants growing too rank, and yet sufficient for each of them to be exposed to the sun and the air.

Secondly, When they have grown to the height of six or seven inches above the ground, you must not earth them, as is the usual practice. You must take away the weeds, and may draw a little mould to them; but you must be careful to do this before the blossom bud appears, which is generally about the end of June. They will now require no farther care excepting that of weeding.

The author is of opinion that early setting is advantageous, on account of the greater chance of early rain, which will be very beneficial to the plants if the summer should be dry. By this process the plants will be healthy; the young potatoes will be formed in due season; they will grow gradually; the plant will ripen and die in due time, and will not be forced into a second growth by

the rain which may fall in September.

The sap being thus left in the potatoe, it becomes a seed endowed with an unimpaired perfect vegetative power; and the plants which are raised from them will be found to be entirely free from the curl. The potatoes may be dug as soon as they can be handled without crushing the peel, that is about the end of September.

Sound potatoes are produced with the greatest certainty from earth that has been pared and burned; the soil thus prepared is well suited to the growth of potatoes. In this they grow gradually, and are not forced beyond their natural size; in doubtful seed, it is safest to plant the smallest potatoes whole.

The soil the most likely to produce the curl, is that which is rich in itself, much manured, and which has a southern aspect. In other situations, where the soil is not rich, and the garden is cold, either from its being upon the side of a hill, or exposed to the north, the curl has not yet appeared. This is perfectly consonant to the theory recited; for where the soil is poor, and the situation cold, the plants cannot be forced into a second growth by earthing and manure.

The author does not mean to dissuade those who are anxious to raise large crops for immediate use, from earthing, and manuring to the utmost extent; he only cautions them against using potatoes so raised, for seed. By earthing and manuring, doubtless large crops of large potatoes will be raised, perfectly good, as food, but imperfect as seed; for the vegetative power will be impaired by this forcing cultivation. Hence it will be the interest of every prudent cultivator to allot a portion of his potatoe field to the raising of seed potatoes. And if the directions given, be followed, the author has not the least doubt of success; at least he is certain the curl will not make its appearance.

For the above communication the Society of Arts voted the author a premium of ten pounds, and in the following year they voted him ten guineas more, for a more enlarged paper

on the same subject, containing the particulars of the experiments from whence the foregoing inferences were drawn.

In this second paper Mr. Hollins controverts the opinion that planting frequently in the same ground produces the curl; he recommends again small potatoes for seed, and to confirm his directions for preventing the curl, states the management which will infallibly produce curly potatoes, which is to plant in June, not very thick in the rows, manure well; earth them at the usual time, and do it repeatedly—once in fourteen days, two or three times; let nothing browse them till the end of October, and when dug, pick the largest and preserve for seed, and if the season permits, there will be a plentiful crop of curled potatoes, a process the reverse of this, such as that before directed, will of course be the best to prevent the curl.

A third premium of ten guineas was given to Mr. Hollins a year after the last mentioned, for a third communication relative to preventing the curl, which is inserted in the ninth vol. of the same work. The principal novelty which it contains is the following method for distinguishing potatoes proper for seed from those likely to produce a curled crop.

"In cutting potatoes for sets, care should be taken not to cut them entirely through; but when the knife has penetrated to about the half, the other half should be broken off. By this operation you may understand whether the potatoe has proper vegetative power or not; if the knife enters easily, and the potatoe breaks off soft, then it is fit for seed; but if on the contrary, the knife enters with some difficulty, and the potatoe breaks off harsh and rough, though it may not appear to want sap, yet it is void of proper vegetative power, and unfit for seed; for if planted, it will either remain whole in the ground till dug, or produce a complete curled crop. However if made use of as food, it will boil some minutes sooner, and eat drier and more mealy than a sound potatoe."

He also gives some account of his experience of the soil best for po-

tatoes; "wet heavy soil," he says, will starve and rot them, and a sharp soil, where there is not sufficient mould to protect them from the scorching heat of the sun, will dry up their vegetative power; care should also be taken not to plant them in unprepared ground, with fresh manure, for he has found by repeated experience, that fresh manure is a great detriment to the potatoe, and will in some soils even cause a sound plant to curl, and if the plants are the least unsound will cause the whole crop to curl, because the heat of the manure dries up the vegetative power. The ground should be plowed up in the beginning of January, and in a month's time, or sooner if the weather permits, should be harrowed, and be manured well on the surface, then ploughed in, and let to lie till the middle of April, then ploughed and harrowed, ridged up, and planted."

Mr. Hollins concludes with stating the following three principal causes of the curl.

First, The curl arises, from potatoes being forced by cultivation to overgrow their power for vegetation.

Secondly, From their vegetative power being dried up in shallow soil by the scorching heat of the sun.

Thirdly, From their being exposed too long, after they are cut into sets, before they are planted.

Several certificates accompany Mr. Hollins' papers, of the invariable freedom of the seed potatoes, sold by him, from the curl, and of the numerous instances in which they had been tried.

Observations. The knowledge of means for preventing a fatal disease in a vegetable that forms the prime article of food of the population of Ireland, is certainly of the first importance, and therefore the foregoing information on the subject has been compiled for this magazine from several papers published at different times by Mr. Hollins, who seems to have given the best account of this disease of any yet made public, and whose directions for preventing it are clear and simple, easy of execution; according to numerous testimonies, perfectly effectual; and though some-

time published, there is every reason to believe, few if any of the readers of this work are acquainted with them. The curl has been attributed by some to the same principle, which causes the decay of grafted fruit trees, and who therefore assert that potatoes require to be renewed from actual seed at certain intervals, as fruit trees do: but this opinion seems to be erroneous, because the most of those we now use have been propagated from the bulbs successively since the year 1586, when they were first introduced here, without any apparent deterioration, few having been raised: from the seed but for experiment. Besides this there is nothing similar in the two cases; grafting is altogether an artificial process, and only concerns the stem of the plant; the propagation by the bulb is on the contrary the work of nature, and the plant produced seems in every respect of the same kind as that from the seed, the bulb appearing to be nothing more than a seed on a large scale; produced in a different manner, being furnished like the seed, with a farinaceous nidus for the nourishment

of the young plant, of which the rudiments are equally found in both.

It might seem to be rather premature to give directions about seed potatoes at this season of the year, but it is during the winter that the appropriation of the present crop must be made to its different uses, and those best for seed be selected: and by beginning to do this from the first, each sort will be applied most beneficially, the very large potatoes will be used as food, being totally unfit for sets, from the foregoing statement, the mealy potatoes will also be applied to the same use, and the smaller sort of a waxy and soft substance be alone reserved for seed. It is also of use to impress as soon as possible on the minds of cultivators, the advantage of preparing the ground in time for the early planting of those intended to be raised for seed next year in the manner above directed by Mr Hollins, as well as the beneficial effect so strongly shown by him of cultivating the potatoes intended for seed in that totally different manner from those intended for food, to communicate which is the design of this paper.

LIST OF NEW PUBLICATIONS.

RELIGION.

A SERMON preached at the Jews Chapel; by the Rev. Andrew Fuller, 1s. 6d.

A Sermon preached before the Society for Missions, to Africa, and the East; by the Rev. Claudius Buchanan, D.D.

Two Sermons, occasioned by the death of the Rev. Richard Cecil; by Rev. Daniel Wilson, M.A.

The following works of Emanuel Swedenborg, Reprinted. The Doctrine of Life for the New Jerusalem; 1s. 6d.

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Likewise, the Arcana celestia, Apocalypse revealed—Heaven and Hell—Angelic Wisdom concerning Divine Wisdom and Love, and Divine Providence, Conjugal Love and true Christian Religion, of the same Author.

BELFAST MAG. NO. XXVI.

POLITICS.

Observations on the Address to his Majesty, proposed by Earl Grey, June 13th, 1810, by William Roscoe, esq. 2s.

MEDICINE, SURGERY.

Salivation Excluded.—a Practical Essay on the Venereal Disease; by Charles Swift, Surgeon, 2s.

A Conspectus of the London, Edinburgh, and Dublin Pharmacopœias, stating the Virtues, Uses and Doses of the several Medicines mentioned in them; by Robert Graves, M.D. and F.R.S. 4s. 6d.

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MONTHLY RETROSPECT OF POLITICS.

"Lands intersected by a narrow frib,
Abhor each other, Mountains interposed
Make enemies of nations, who' had else
Like kindred drops been mingled into
one.

Yet there is need of social intercourse,
Benevolence and peace, and mutual aid,
Between the nations."

"There should be peace,
And brethren in calamity should love."

COWPER.

IN an association for literary purposes the writer who for the time holds the pen, and acts as the minister of the political department, does not necessarily sink his own individuality, or merge into the mere scribe; he has a right to express opinions, which may differ from those of some of his colleagues; and is not bound to suppress his own in condescension to the opinions of others. He in such a case, however, should express his sentiments, so as to show they rest on his own authority; and to exonerate the corps he must lay aside the royal style, and let *we* and *our* appear less frequently in his composition. The rights of free discussion are thus preserved, and it is open to his colleagues and others to express opposite sentiments, for it is hoped that the pages of the Belfast Magazine will ever generally be open to both sides of every important question.

The writer of the present retrospect feels the foregoing explanation

necessary in submitting his opinions on the subject of the repeal of the Union, which now rouses so many in Dublin from their torpid apathy, and causes an appearance of local patriotism in those who looked with indifference on the barefaced corruption exposed to open day in all its deformity, in the memorable investigation in the session of 1809. Dublin, whence this meteor of patriotism has suddenly broke forth, was then silent. Sir Francis Burdett's struggles for *liberty and reform* did not produce one sympathetic movement in that city. These repealing patriots do not venture to go deep enough to explore the causes of the state of unexampled distress under which Ireland suffers, not exclusively, but in common with the rest of the empire. If they really aim to deserve the title of true patriots, let them add to the list of grievances in their petition, the mighty source of all the evils, the destructive war, in which, without motive, we are engaged. Let them rise to the assertion of this bold truth, and then they would discover the causes which paralyse the trade of Britain, as well as of Ireland. We have not an exclusive right to complaint. We suffer only a portion of the general calamity. The union has not caused the stoppage of the West country banks; did not force,

guineas almost generally to disappear in circulation, or produce the bankruptcies in London, and other parts of England, equalling, at least, the distressing events of a similar nature in Ireland.

The measures by which the union was effected, and the motives of most of the actors in this disgraceful transaction, are justly deserving of execration, but the union, considered abstractedly, had a tendency to allay party feuds, and to relieve us from the rough riding of some of our Irish unprincipled jockies.—

If we may be allowed to speak impartially of the dead, in what respect have we to regret the dissolution of the Irish parliament? After they recovered from the fit of patriotism, into which, partly from fear, and partly from fashion they were led in 1782, what was their subsequent conduct? Could any parliament be more obsequious to ministerial leading strings? or in the view of sober and impartial judgment, have Irish affairs been worse managed in the last ten years, than in the period from 1790 to 1800. National vanity may magnify the importance of a resident parliament, but do facts, those irresistible arguments, justify the assertion? Dublin, the mishapen and disproportioned head of a nation, by this and other causes, rendered feeble and rickety, may complain of its loss. The perfumers, the players, the retailers of superfluities, may complain of the loss of their trade, Daly's Club house, that convenient lounge for legislators, waiting for the call to decide by their unweighed and profligate votes, the fate of their country, may not now be so crowded; but the merchants of Cork, Waterford and Belfast, may perhaps the general importing merchants in Dublin, feel no cause to blame the union.

To a certain degree parliamentary reform has been introduced into Ireland, and though from the operation of counteracting causes, this abolition of rotten boroughs produces no effect in the general scale at present, yet a precedent is set, which might, under a change of circumstances, be useful, and serve as a model for electoral and radical reform. Decla-

mations against the union have the effect of alienating the minds of the Irish from their British brethren. "Brethren in calamity should love," and the cause of complaint is not of Irish against British, but both have a common cause to seek redress of grievances, common to both, and look for a reform equally wanted by both. They have a common ground of just complaint, and a common ruin to dread, if reform is too long delayed. Under such circumstances instead of the distraction of local and exclusive politics, the united cry in both countries should be, NO PECULATION, NO CORRUPTION; EQUAL RIGHTS TO ALL, AND A REFORMED REPRESENTATION.

As this retrospect forms a compound of history and comment, it remains to be stated, in the way of history, that an aggregate meeting of the citizens, freemen and freeholders of the city of Dublin was held on the 18th inst. Sir James Riddall, Knt. High Sheriff of the City of Dublin in the Chair; Sir Edward Stanley, the other Sheriff, having declined to join in the call of the meeting; when petitions to the king, and both houses of the imperial parliament, were agreed to. The resolutions of this meeting will be recorded among the documents. It is said that four counties, Meath, Mayo, Kerry and Galway are preparing to meet for the purpose of joining in similar measures.

Causes of just complaint against the administration of public affairs in Ireland since the period of the union may be adduced without the difficulty of much research. But there is little room to expect better conduct under a resident parliament. Public benefits were promised at the union, but they were not realized. The promises of statesmen are made to deceive, and not to be fulfilled. "The promise was made to the ear, but broken to the hope." Catholic emancipation, and an amelioration of the system of tithes, the greatest grievance of Ireland, were delusively promised most probably without an intention to fulfil the expectation. These promises have not been kept; but if the union had not taken place, could we reasonably expect that these measures of justice and sound policy would

have been conceded, to pacify and tranquilize our country?

As a barometer of public opinion, and of the change which is silently and gradually taking place, it may be noted that lately at a meeting of the freeholders of Gloucestershire to put in nomination a candidate for the representation of that county, the Tories affected to profess whiggish principles, but the Whigs conceded on the other hand, so as to express their enmity to radical reform, and both parties coalesced in practically admitting the interference of peers in returning representatives to the house of commons. Such is frequently the state of election contests. It is merely a struggle between different branches of the aristocracy, and the people have little weight, and little interest in the event.

The harvest has been so much benefited by the late favourable weather, as to afford good hopes of plenty, and the quartern loaf has been lowered 3d. in London. The sycophants of power have made use of this highly favourable change, to abuse those who entertained reasonable fears of the harvest.—A few weeks ago, appearances were very doubtful, but the late very fine weather has decidedly turned the scale in favour of abundance. Still the harvest is very late, and without the intervention of so long a series of dry weather, it would have been extremely precarious.

The necessity of retrenchment in the public expenditure, is now beginning to be generally acknowledged. Huskisson, a man well versed in the mystery of finance, in his speech in parliament last session, made some important discoveries deserving of attention from his abilities and practical knowledge, as also from his apparent sincerity, of which, as a pledge he stated that he resigned his situation, when he found the present administration were determined to proceed in the system, which he described as so destructive.

From the speech of Mr. Huskisson in the house of commons on the war estimate of the year, the following may be stated as his declared opinion.—

1. That the average annual expenditure exceeds the annual average pub-

lic income by the sum of 21,000,000*l*.

2. That the charge of a loan of 21,000,000*l*. will exceed the sum of 1,200,000*l*. per annum.

3. That taxation on consumption has been carried so far that no new or additional tax can be productive of increased revenue.

4. That the direct taxes cannot be rendered more productive than they now are, without regulations of intolerable severity.

5. And that therefore our scale of expenditure must be reduced 21,000,000*l*. per annum, merely to equalise it with our income."

The several committees of inquiry, and commissioners of accounts are also from time to time making some useful discoveries, and raking up the kennels of corruption. But while they may cause a few shovel-falls to be thrown out, corruption is still accumulating by waggon loads. The drift in appointing these committees appears more to defeat inquiries which could not be entirely stifled, than to make a thorough-going search. How easily ministers are satisfied, on the subject of retrenchment, may appear from some trifling savings announced with great pomposity in the ministerial newspapers as the very extent of safe practical reform. Some commissioners were to be curtailed in an allowance of public breakfasts on particular days, and fewer newspapers were to be taken into public offices for the accommodation of the clerks. These retrenchments so far as they go, may be well enough, but they are too insignificant to be noticed, unless the principle is followed up. Like to the conduct of the society for the suppression of vice, by whom the poorer offender is punished, while the higher criminal escapes, the perquisites of the clerks are curtailed, but the speculation of the heads of offices remain. "Mind, mind yourselves," is the general watch-word through all departments of the state, and thus the public burdens are increased.—There is a fellow feeling in guilt, and few are sufficiently clean handed themselves to detect abuses in others.

—————"Examine well

His milk-white hand; the palm is hardly clean—

But there and there an ugly smutch appears;

Toll! 'twas a bribe that left it: he has touch'd

Corruption.——

Authority himself—not seldom sleeps,
Though resident and witness of the wrong;
When he should strike, he trembles, and
sells free,

Himself en-lav'd by terror of the band."

Among the documents will be found some curious instances of misconduct set forth in two reports respecting the linen board. Profuse expenditure characterizes their proceedings; but the misconduct of Charles Duffin, their inspector general, was so glaring, as to cause them to appoint a committee to inquire into his conduct. The proceedings are given at full length among the documents, and discover an instance of fraud, successfully detected, and of as weak and unprincipled a defence as ever was set up. It is strange to hear a man attempting to justify a fraud by pleading a temporary insanity arising from a paroxysm of the gout!

Large sums out of the public purse are annually placed at the disposal of the linen board. How much of this expenditure is really necessary, and how much is employed in promoting patronage, and the power of office, are questions deserving of speedy and full investigation by those who ought to be the guardians of the public purse. If the day of strict inquiry into abuses ever arrive, it will be questioned whether the linen trade after so long an establishment in this country, requires the aid of a board, with so large a sum of public money at their disposal, or whether such an institution is adapted to the present times. Even the protection of new branches of the linen trade some think ought to be left to the energy of private adventure, and that premiums are useless and unnecessarily burdensome on the community at large.

Governments hostile to each other in all other things, appear to form similar opinions and to adopt similar measures for the coercion of the press. The French emperor has published an edict forbidding more than one newspaper to be published in each department, except in the department of the Seine, which comprehends the city of Paris, and that newspapers

previously to publication, must pass under the review of a licenser; Alas! poor Liberty! in what country of Europe wilt thou find an asylum? The freedom of the press is in danger of being lost, either by being forced to undergo a previous examination, or by the terrors of a two years imprisonment, hanging over the head of an unfortunate writer, who may express his complaints too roughly to suit the ears of men in power. The revival and universal sway of unrelenting power, and a military despotism are to be dreaded in the present state of Europe: for such is the present tendency, if not speedily prevented by some powerful counteracting causes.

As one step in this fatal progress, we may view the appointment of Bernadotte to be Crown Prince of Sweden, and his probable assumption at no distant period of the Crown of that kingdom. Leaving for the present the consideration of the increased powers of annoyance acquired by this measure against these countries, and its probable effects in the impending struggle, it may be allowed to us to lament it as a step in the progress of military despotism. Bonaparte and his generals are likely to be the sovereigns of the continent of Europe. As a recommendation of Bernadotte he is stated to have served under Murat, now also made a King. These appointments so disgraceful to the supposed superior lights of the present times, with which we so lavishly complimented ourselves, are however strictly in conformity to the old order of things, and are only in continuation of the feudal system revived under another form. Liberty, that invincible spirit, which it has latterly been the fashion and puny policy to decry, can alone form a barrier to these encroachments, and unless its powerful aid is called into action, governments are likely to become increasingly military and consequently despotic, and the Murats and Bernadottes will establish their dynasties on a foundation not more unjust than the conquerors of past ages, and become in their turn the founders of other regal families, in like manner as William of Bradenburgh, the count of Hopsburgh, the pre-

decessor of the now falling house of Austria, or Gustavus Vasa, to whom Bernadotte is likely to be successor in the crown of Sweden.

Amid the dark shades of the present era, it affords some consolation to observe that in the late treaty between Britain and the Prince Regent of Portugal, this heretofore bigoted court, has declared spontaneously that the inquisition shall not be established in the South American dominions of the crown of Portugal, and that the prince is in this point *guided by an enlightened and liberal policy*. Some grounds are also held out for hope that the inquisition may in time be abolished in Portugal. He also agrees to co-operate in the cause of humanity and justice in adopting the most efficacious means for bringing about a gradual abolition of the slave trade, through the whole of his dominions, being fully convinced of the injustice and impolicy of the slave trade, and of the great disadvantages which arise from the necessity of introducing a foreign and factitious population into South America. Have we not hence a dawn of hope of just sentiments prevailing? Lord Strangford, the British ambassador to the court of Brazil appears to be entitled to praise for his share in the negotiation of this part of this novel treaty, unprecedented in the usual routine of diplomacy.

At Rome it appears that Bonaparte has been endeavouring to promote an attention to manufactures. The people may well give up the splendour of the Papal court for the more substantial benefits of industrious habits, and be great gainers by the exchange. We hope their condition will be greatly ameliorated.

Almeida has fallen with a considerable bavoc, and unprofitable waste of human life. Delusion may for a time furnish one source of hope, when another is destroyed, but it seems likely that the British Army will shortly be once more expelled from the Peninsula of Spain and Portugal. Ultimate success cannot reasonably be expected, and delay still further exhausts our treasure, and exposes the army to unavailing sufferings, without producing any tendency to better our own condition or that of

our allies. To trust still to delusive hope, notwithstanding repeated disappointments, and to repose blind confidence in the chapter of accidents, in hopes of something favourable turning up, although the revolution of the wheel generally produces worse than the former, marks the present times, and shows the infatuation of the public mind. The history of the present war is remarkable for reiterated disappointments, and after every failure, the renewal of fallacious hope. Coalition after coalition has failed, one nation has fallen after another, and yet we would fain catch, or appear to catch at something to flatter our prejudices, and keep us from seeing the dangers of our situation.

The following remarks on the Lancastrian Free School, now establishing in Belfast, may not be considered as misplaced at the close of a Political Retrospect. They relate to an important part of domestic policy.

The laudable exertions to promote the benefits of education among the poorer classes of society in Belfast are highly pleasing. The weekly or Sunday School has already been productive of much advantage, and the exertions of the managers of that school to extend their plan to embrace a daily school on the Lancastrian model is highly deserving of commendation and encouragement. But in viewing the building now erecting for the purpose, it appears to be on too magnificent a scale. There ought to be every accommodation both in size and ventilation, but no superfluity, no ornaments of cut stone, nor large windows more calculated for show than use. Even on the plan on which it is now erecting, after the additional story has been laid aside, the cost will be considerable. It would be highly imprudent to exhaust not only the funds, but the benevolence of the public in a costly building, without looking forward to the permanent support of the institution. No subscriptions can be expected from distant places, for there is no inducement to hold out to remote subscribers to interest them by selfish motives to contribute, as in the case of the academical institution, to which many

In distant quarters subscribed with the view of seeing a berynary established at which their own children might hereafter be educated. Neither does the cause of philanthropy require the aid of foreign donations, for it would on truly benevolent principles, be much more fitting for each neighbourhood to exert themselves to promote similar establishments in their immediate vicinity, according to their abilities, and the necessity for such establishments, than subscribe to a Metropolitan school in Belfast.

One distinguishing feature in Lancaster's plan, and which enhances its claim to usefulness, is a rigid frugality of expenditure in every department.

He says that in order to render education among the poor, universal as it ought to be, it must be very cheap. Every thing is therefore calculated to be done in the simplest and plainest manner. To save is one essential part of his system, and it would be a *practical bull*, to establish a Lancasterian school on an expensive plan. In Joseph Lancaster's school, in the Borough Road, London, the building is simple almost to an extreme. There is no decoration, no ostentatious display of architecture, and if strength has been sufficiently attended to, no more can be said. But in Ireland ostentation is too generally a prominent defect in our charitable institutions as well as in our national character. There must be something in the showy exterior to catch the eye, and arrest the gaze of the passenger. Too frequently the funds which ought to be economized to produce comfort within have been lavished on a magnificent outside. Some have said, it will do good, and tend to promote the establishments of similar institutions to have a spacious building, to excite the inquiry, for what has this fine house been erected? It is better to have Lancaster's lowly roof, well regulated within, than the grandest building. It is more appropriate, and in character, and holds forth a brighter example, and what is of the greatest importance, an example more easily imitated, and consequently more likely to produce a greater sum of good by bringing the imitation within the compass of smaller means to accomplish. It is an excellent moral

maxim, to prefer in all cases the useful to the showy. Happy would it be for our country, if this rule became a leading principle, both in private life, and in the conducting of public institutions.

In many instances the subscriptions to this institution in Belfast, have been liberal. This is right, and liberality in contributing to extend the blessings of education to the poor is an act of sound policy, as well as of benevolence. The richer ranks promote their own interests by encouraging the poor to seek education for their children. It may be allowed to call in question the patriotism, the pure love of his country, and of his kind, in any man who would refuse to contribute in proportion to his ability, to so praise-worthy a plan. There is a false patriotism, which consists in an ostentatious cant of expression, by which men are in the habit of imposing on others, and often on themselves. Talk is cheap, but the man who confirms his patriotism by the "unequivocal and authentic deed" is the true patriot. In the deed only we find sound patriotism, we read the heart. The parade of patriotism is like to a bladder filled with gas. It may be compared to hydrogen gas, which explodes with loud cracks, when after passing through water, it meets the ignited taper, or like the oxygen which consumes the charcoal, or wires with a dazzling brilliancy. These are showy effects; but are little useful in real life, while the plain substantial fire burns steadily, and affords heat and usefulness. Thus practical patriotism and a benevolence not easily evapourable diffuses its blessings around, and the liberality of the purse is a good index to show that the heart is in the right place. It is hoped that in this school the education of girls will form a part of the plan, otherwise the good work will not be half accomplished. When we consider the importance of females in domestic management, and their influence in educating and training the rising generation, the necessity of attending to the education of girls even of higher interest than the education of boys. Necessary avocations frequently call fathers from home, but good mothers seldom leave

the parental nest. To them is especially committed the charge of the young, and as they are capable of discharging their duty, or are trained in the neglect of it, will the succeeding generation be improved, or injured. A mother, who has been early trained to habits of usefulness is in a moral point of view a most valuable acquisition to her family, and to the state.

DOCUMENTS.

Extract from the 36th report of the Commissioners of Account of Ireland, ordered by the House of Commons to be printed 30th April, 1810.

LINEN AND HEMP MANUFACTURE.

In our former reports we have repeatedly observed upon the great inattention of the trustees to their money concerns, and the improper negligence of the officers employed under them. The nature of the disallowances we have found necessary to make in the present account, amounting to one thousand six hundred and nineteen pounds fourteen shillings and a penny, has called our attention again most particularly to this subject.

These disallowances seem sufficiently explained at the foot of the above account.

The different sums, making two hundred and seventy-five pounds ten shillings, vouched by receipts, duplicates of which we find have been already passed in support of similar charges allowed in the preceding account, as paid by Mr. Duffin, have been disallowed, and must be refunded by him.

Also, sixty-eight pounds sixteen shillings and four pence halfpenny for hemp hatches, which appears to have been twice taken credit for, first on the receipt of the artificer for its value, and again on the receipt of the grantee for the utensils to the inspector general, which he should not have taken credit for, and therefore this sum must be also refunded by him.

Also, the sum of seven hundred and nineteen pounds for making machines for breaking hemp, &c. and packing cases, the bill and receipt of the mechanist not having been produced to us, though the receipt of the grantees appears. It is observable that the amount of seventy-five pounds included in the above, which is charged for making cases, has been already discharged. Mr. Parke, the architect, having paid the amount of making these cases to Mr. Meagher, his carpenter, whom the inspector general ordered

to make them, and said he would pay him, but it appears he did not pay him, but paid the whole amount of this seventy-five pounds to Mr. Telfair, the mechanist; on an estimate of five pounds each for every case, which is nearly double what has been paid for them by Mr. Parke to Mr. Meagher; and Mr. Meagher deposes, that he made a case for each of these machines, and was paid for them by Mr. Parke. The amount of the expence of these cases must also be refunded by Mr. Duffin to the trustees. The remainder of this sum must be disallowed, until the inspector general produces proper authorities—accounts, bills, and receipts for it, some of which he has at present exhibited to us. The total amount to be refunded by Mr. Inspector General to the trustees then appears to be the sum of four hundred and nineteen pounds six shillings and four pence halfpenny.

The trustees expended about twenty-four thousand pounds per annum, a considerable part of which goes to pay their establishment and inferior officers, of whom there is a regular series, consisting of inspector general, provincial inspectors, port inspectors, county inspectors, and their deputies; the latter do not appear upon the face of this account, either as to the number or payment, being paid in general by fines levied for improper practices, to the amount of eight hundred pounds per annum, besides seal-masters, and persons who gratuitously assist in the distribution of machinery, premiums, &c. These are so arranged that they might form proper cheques both on the public and each other, and might convey correct information to the trustees of all the proceedings of the department; but these officers do not sufficiently perform their duty. The trustees are too numerous, too fluctuating, have too great a variety of opinions, and frequently counteract each other. They seldom attend in proper numbers; they frequently, in our opinion, act in direct opposition to law, as appears on the face of their minutes, particularly in the most essential points of making grants and paying money. They have no emolument, but such as they ought to derive in common with the public, from their own grants, and therefore cannot be expected to give due attention to the performance of so very laborious a duty.

The inspector-general, who is the first officer under the trustees, appears to have been very negligent, and yet to him alone seems to be committed, by the trustees, the whole management of this great establishment. They generally take for

granted that his representations are correct, and on the sole authority of his signature or representation, pay annually large sums of money; yet to his errors are owing most of the inaccuracies of this account.

The duty of this Officer is a general superintendence of the whole department, to collect information of circumstances relative to the linen trade, and establishment from all officers, and from his own inspection of the different parts of the Kingdom, which it is his duty to visit, to state the conduct of all officers; the propriety of all premiums, and the justice of all claims to the Trustees; but we find the practice to be, that the County Inspectors report only to the Provincial Inspectors, and they report to the Inspector General, who reports on them, and only takes notice of such parts of their reports as he thinks proper to state to the Trustees. Thus the Provincial Inspector may withhold his information from the Inspector General, and he the Inspector General from the Trustees, who are therefore frequently ignorant of essential knowledge, for the Inspector General has not been in the habit of communicating to the Trustees, except what circumstances he pleases; nor has he communicated such facts as have come to his knowledge relative to frauds intended to be practised against the Trustees. He certifies in favour of claims for premiums, which are paid on his sole certificate, to a very large amount, without due investigation through the proper officers, of their being just; and in particular in one instance now before us, where he had well grounded cause of suspicion of gross frauds having been recently intended by the parties against the Linen Board.

There are persons resident in the county of Cork, trading under the firm of Sir Thomas Fitzgerald and Shanaghan, who have at times received large premiums from the linen board for manufacturing coarse linens from mill-spun yarn. An affidavit, claiming considerable sums for this manufacture, came up from them to the inspector general; some suspicion arising on the face of this affidavit, he sent the provincial inspector to Cork to enquire into the matter; soon afterwards he got an anonymous letter from Cork, informing him generally that a fraud was intended against the trustees on the part of the Messrs. Shanaghans; and he, about the same time, received a letter from Messrs. Shanaghans, enclosing two papers, purporting to be custom-house certificates of large entries at the custom-house of linen outwards, whereon to

ground future claims of bounty, as he believed; these appeared to him, and he believed them to be forged certificates, yet he returned them under cover to Sir Thomas Fitzgerald, a partner of the house of Fitzgerald and Shanaghan, informing him of his suspicions of fraud, and advising him to be on his guard, and thereby in sending away these, as he thought, forged papers, depriving the trustees of the best evidence towards the conviction of this supposed fraud. The provincial inspector, that had been sent to Cork, informed the inspector general that he believed the number of yards in the affidavit could not have been wrought by Messrs. Shanaghans in the time sworn to, either by their machinery, or from the quantity of their raw material, in addition to what they had proved, and got premiums to the amount of above nine hundred pounds on before for the same period; and that as to the supposed forged certificate, which the inspector general thinks mentioned a number of yards amounting to about seventy-six thousand as entered for exportation, there did not appear to him, on his search, entries to the custom-house to the amount of more than half the quantity so entered. No further steps were taken to find out the truth or falsehood of these circumstances, and no part of these transactions, either of the affidavit, the anonymous letter, the supposed forged certificate, or any part of the report of the provincial inspector, was ever laid before the trustees.

The inspector general not only suppressed this whole information, but when a claim of premium for above the sum of one thousand one hundred and forty pounds was very shortly afterwards made by these Messrs. Shanaghans, the claim was certified by the inspector general, and paid by the trustees to William Mackenzie, agent to Sir Thomas Fitzgerald, baronet, without the inspector general taking any step whatever, except perusing the usual affidavit, and what purported to be custom-house certificates (but might not) to ascertain the veracity of this claim, though many obvious means of examination might have been resorted to by him of different inspectors; of custom-house entries, of books of sales, and other documents, which we consider it to have been the duty of the inspector general to have done in all cases, but most particularly in the case of persons against whom such strong suspicions of fraud had been so recently entertained by him.

This instance has appeared in evidence, and we cannot but apprehend that similar ones may have occurred in this depart-

ment, and particularly when it appears that a great proportion of the public expenditure passes through the office of the Inspector General, as appears in the minutes.

This negligent mode of superintendence of the trustees, and inattentive conduct of the Inspector General, and of course of the officers under him, appears in the effect of the distribution of hemp-seed, and the results of a very wise and important experiment suggested by the Chancellor of Ireland, viz. the growing of hemp in Ireland for the use of the navy.

It appears that a sum in this account, amounting to three thousand eight hundred and eighty-one pounds fifteen shillings and six pence, has been expended as per the following particulars.

| | <i>Hempseed.</i> | <i>£ s. d.</i> |
|---|------------------|----------------|
| ported 130 sacks of Hempseed, containing about 1,368 bushels | 1,404 | 5 10 |
| Expenses attending the distribution and the sale of Hemp-seed, as follows: | | |
| English Hemp Farmers instructing Farmers in Ireland in the management and culture of Hemp | 624 | 13 9 |
| advertising respecting Hemp-seed in the several papers through Ireland | 652 | 14 11 |
| Charles Duffin, Inspector General, travelling expenses to England to procure Hemp Farmers | 113 | 15 — |
| Entry, Freight, and Charge on 130 sacks of Hempseed | 153 | 1 7 |
| Expenses attending Hemp-seed, as appears on the face of the Account | 3,544 | 5 3 |
| Expenses attending delivery of Hempseed, as by paper marked C. | 85 | 10 —h |
| | 3,629 | 19 1h |
| Expenses for breaking Hemp | 713 | — — |
| five Hemp Machines | 65 | 16 4h |
| | 3,881 | 15 6 |

That is, in purchasing hemp-seed in England, bringing over hemp farmers, &c. &c. machinery, travelling charges, advertising, &c. &c. &c. and the whole management of this business was entrusted to the Inspector General, who was authorised by the Trustees to sell at such high price as would cover the expense, when the sales fell was ordered to give the best to poor farmers to encourage them to sow it. We find that the quantity of hemp-seed purchased in England was about one thousand four hundred and sixty bushels worth; of this about one-fourth was sold, and the rest was distributed gratis: it appears, from the returns to us, that what was sold was mostly sold to the poor, and what was distributed gratis, in general, was to the opulent.

We have, in our former reports, repeatedly observed upon the Trustees along to the Architect too great a latitude

in expenditure, and one indeed almost totally uncontrolled. We find that a Building Committee has been appointed of the Trustees since the period of this account, which, if it performs its duty may prevent in a great measure the evils arising. The architect has orders from the Board to keep the buildings in general in repair, and he has uniformly directed his carpenters and other artificers to obey all orders of the Inspector General, Secretary, and other Chief Officers, as to their houses, &c. &c.; and it was under this comprehensive order that the carpenter obeyed the directions of the Inspector General in making the packing cases for the hemp machines, and which thus have been paid for twice. The architect's and Inspector General's sub-accounts are not settled by the Trustees till about the expiration of the year, and in general after the expenditures have been made, and the artificers paid by them.

These, as well as other evils arising from negligent superintendence, we are of opinion cannot easily be remedied under the present construction of the Board of Trustees, and conduct of their officers. This account did not come into this office till 24th November last, was proceeded on as soon as possible, but we were not able to include it in our last report to Parliament.

RICHARD MAGENIS, (L. S.)

MAURICE CANE, (L. S.)

H. S. KING, (L. S.)

Account Office, March 10th, 1810.

In consequence of this report, the Trustees of the Linen and Hempen Manufactures appointed a Committee to investigate the conduct of Charles Duffin, the Inspector General. They also accepted his resignation, and have suspended his son, who had formerly been joined with him, from the office. The following extracts from the Committee, develop some scenes which reflect infamy on the man, who could plan such a scheme to prevent detection.

Extracts from the Report.

First Report of the Committee of the Trustees of the Linen and Hempen Manufactures, appointed on the 19th of June, 1810, "to take into consideration the 36th Report of the Commissioners of Accounts," and who were further instructed on the 3d of July, "to enquire generally into the conduct of the Inspector General, and to report the same to the Trustees."

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE LINEN AND HEMPEN MANUFACTURES.

Your Committee have to state to you, that in the commencement of the examination of the matters referred to them, some circumstances came to their know-

ledge, tending to establish so serious a charge against Mr. Charles Duffin, the elder, your Inspector General, that they think it necessary to lay before you, without delay, the evidences which they have obtained thereon.

Your Committee will offer no comment, for the present, upon the depositions which they now submit to you, and have only to add, that they will proceed in the examination of the other subjects connected with the 36th report of the Commissioners of Accounts, with every practicable expedition.

James Corry, Secretary,
July 17th, 1810.

(Copy.)

NO. 4.

Examination of Mr. Robert Johnston Fowler, Inspector for the upper district of the County of Down, taken by a Committee of the Trustees of the Linen and Hemp Manufactures, appointed to take into consideration, the 36th Report of the Commissioners of Accounts, at a meeting of the said Committee, held on Friday the 6th of July, 1810.

2. Were you examined by the Commissioners of Accounts, respecting some receipts for looms granted to female weavers, which were included in the account of this board, for the year ended the 5th of January, 1809, and duplicates of which had been allowed in the account for the year ended the 5th of January, 1808?

A I was.

2. Explain what you know of those duplicate receipts?

A. This Board was pleased a few years ago to grant looms to female weavers; those looms were made in the county where they were wanted, and paid in this way. The loom-makers drew out receipts for the value of the looms, when made and delivered, upon which receipts, the County Inspector indorsed a certificate, stating that he had examined and branded, and distributed the said looms, agreeable to the Board's order. These receipts were afterwards remitted to Mr. Duffin, and payment was obtained thereon from the Board.—I, as Inspector for the upper district of the County of Down, usually got my orders respecting those looms from Mr. Duffin, through Mr. John Christy, who is a gentleman of the first respectability in the county of Down, and who, though not an officer of this board, undertook the trouble of conducting the distribution of those looms, at the request. I hear of some of the trustees and from public motives; Mr. Christy stated to

me, I believe about two years ago, that he had received a letter from Mr. Duffin, saying that the receipts of certain loom-makers, whose names were expressed therein, were mislaid; stating also the value of each of these receipts, and requesting him to apply to the loom-makers for second receipts. I did so accordingly, and forwarded them to Mr. Duffin, either through Mr. Christy, or directly to him, I cannot remember which. Those receipts were afterwards produced to me, on my examination before the commissioners of accounts, in the month of January last, together with the originals, at which time, I knew them to be those I had obtained the first and second time.

2. Was any application made to you by Mr. Duffin previous to your examination before the commissioners of Accounts, respecting your intended examination?

A. A letter was written to me by Mr. Duffin, which I received about the same time with Mr. Corry's summons to attend the board, which letter directed me to call on him upon my arrival in town for the purpose of explaining to me the intended object of my examination. When I came to town, I waited on Mr. Duffin, and we had a long conversation together upon the subject.

2. What was the purport of that conversation?

A. The purport was to induce me to conceal from the commissioners of accounts, that the receipts, about which I was to be examined, were duplicates.

2. Then you consider the purport of the conversation was to induce you to conceal, that these were duplicate receipts for one and the same delivery?

A. I will state to the best of my recollection what passed—When I went into Mr. Duffin's house, I think it was on a Tuesday, he asked me "had I been with Mr. Corry?" I told him I had not, he said "very well;" the business, he said "upon which I was summoned, respected the duplicate receipts; he told me he had a clerk who had stolen the former receipts from him, and had carried them to the linen board, and there got the amount of them, and that he did not know that payment had been made upon those former receipts until they were produced to him by the commissioners of accounts, adding, that the same clerk had robbed him of a large sum besides, and had gone to America"—I replied that "if he would state those facts to the board, or to the commissioners, I was sure they would not let him be at a loss by them"—he said

"that would not do," adding these words, "the duplicates must be denied, or I am ruined." I answered, won't the commissioners examine me on oath?" he replied, "never mind that,, until I pass my examination," and again he desired me not to go near Mr. Corry. I promised him that I would not go near him, and retired. I consulted with a friend, and his opinion was that I should wait upon Mr. Corry. I mentioned to my friend my promise to Mr. Duffin, and suggested the propriety of returning back to him, to which my friend assented—I accordingly went back to Mr. Duffin, and told him that I was afraid I would incur the displeasure of the board if I did not immediately wait on Mr. Corry; his expression thereupon was, "you must not go to Corry," or words to that effect, "and I will indemnify you"—he then expressed a wish to me not to be seen about the linen hall, after which I came away, and feeling myself much hurt, I went and got a sheet of paper, with the intention of writing to Mr. Corry, to say that I had arrived in town, but that finding myself indisposed, I could not wait upon him;—including also to request he would communicate any orders he had for me, by any of the gentlemen of the office—before I got into the hotel where I put up, I met Mr. John Greer, late inspector for Ulster, I told him the substance of what had passed; he bid me not mind my fears about not waiting upon Mr. Corry, saying "that in case he was offended, he (Greer) would settle it with him"—nothing more happened that day—next morning, Wednesday, I met Sinclair, inspector for the county of Armagh, on his arrival in town. I bid him wait upon Mr. Duffin for his instructions, and agreed to meet him at four that day at dinner—I then went to Clontarf and there dined with Mr. John Greer—I came in about ten in the evening—I found Sinclair in bed in my room—"I asked him "what news?" he told me he had been a long time with Mr. Duffin, who told him, "that I must pass before the commissioners as a Quaker, and he himself (Sinclair) as a Seceder." I spurned at the idea, and told him I would not say any thing but the truth. He said we were to wait upon Mr. Duffin at ten next day.—Next morning (Thursday) we accordingly waited on Mr. Duffin. He asked me "had Sinclair mentioned the subject of which they had spoke the day before?" I told him he had—he looked over at me and said "that I could pass very well as a quaker, as the commissioners were Connaught men, and that the quakers here did not speak as in the North." I said that I would neither swear, nor affirm what

was not the truth; we then left Mr. Duffin and waited on Mr. Corry.

2. State what passed when you saw Mr. Corry?

A. We stated to him that we had come up agreeable to the board's orders—that we had been with Mr. Duffin from whom we learned that the subject of our intended examination related to duplicate receipts of loom-makers—Mr. Corry said he had received a letter from Mr. Duffin on the subject, which he then read to us, and which purported to explain that the receipts were not duplicates; upon which I told him that letter was not true. I then stated to him the overtures which had been made to us both by Mr. Duffin. Mr. Corry expressed the greatest surprise and concern, and said "it cannot be"—he told us he was then going to attend the commissioners of accounts, to whom he would report our being in town, and would procure our being examined (if possible) the next day, adding that he thought he would be guilty of insulting the feelings of two men, who were described to him to bear respectable characters, if he gave us any caution against telling any thing but the truth, when we went before them.

Robert J. Fowler.

Sworn before me the 9th of July, 1810.
M. Fitzgerald. One of the trustees of the linen and hempen manufactures.

NO. 5.

Examination of Mr. Thomas Sinclair, inspector for the Co. of Armagh, taken by a committee of the Trustees of the Linen and Hempen Manufactures, appointed to take into consideration the 36th Report of the commissioners of accounts, at a meeting of the said committee, held on Monday, the 9th of July 1810.

Q. Do you recollect that you received an order from Mr. Corry, sometime in January last, to attend the board?

A. I do.

2. Did you receive a letter from Mr. Duffin at the same time?

A. I believe I did, his letter desired me to call on him on my coming to town.

Q. Explain every thing that passed on your coming to town.

A. I met Fowler on getting out of the carriage—he told me the reason of our being summoned to town, arose out of some mistakes in Mr. Duffin's accounts, and that I was to wait on Mr. Duffin before I went to any body else. Fowler told me that he himself had been with Mr. Duffin, who desired him to keep out of the way, and that I was to do the same. I soon after waited on Mr. Duffin who

produced his books to me—and told me a mistake had happened in regard to the duplicate receipts of loom makers that I had sent him; that a clerk of his had drawn the money from the board upon the former receipts, and had gone to America. He asked for Fowler, I told him he had gone to Mr. Greer's, which seemed to displease him, he said he was to be examined by the commissioners of accounts the next day at one o'clock, and that he would then settle about the time of our being examined; he then expressed a desire, that we should be both with him in the evening. I observed to him "that since the mistake had happened, he had better bring the book to the commissioners of accounts, and the matter would be settled at once." He told me that that was not his purpose for sending for Fowler or me. That the commissioners knew nothing of his accounts. We then had a long conversation, the substance of which was, that he wished me to state to the commissioners that there was a deficiency of fund with the board to pay for the whole of the looms at once, and that therefore the loom makers divided the amount of their demands on the board into two equal parts, and gave separate receipts for each half of the demand, which was to account to the commissioners for the receipts appearing to be duplicates. I asked him thereon if I was to be examined on oath? on which he said, "a thought had struck him the night before, which was, that I was to pass for a Seceder and Fowler for a Quaker;" that I was to hold up my hand, and Fowler was only to affirm, in order to avoid taking an oath, "for that if the commissioners were to find out that he had drawn the money twice, that he himself would be suspended, and that we should all be ruined." The conversation there dropped until the next morning. He explained to Fowler and me together, the next morning, the same thing he had before explained to me, when alone with him the day before; Fowler thereupon said that "the thing could not be, for, that every one knew he was no Quaker; Mr. Duffin replied, that "the commissioners did not know whether he was or not, and that they were Connaught men, and knew nothing about the affirmation of a Quaker." Mr. Duffin further said he was to go to the commissioners that day at one o'clock, and desired us both to wait on him in the evening—he allowed us then to go to Mr. Corry, for the purpose of knowing when we were to be examined, which was the first time he would allow us to go near him; we then waited on Mr. Corry, and Fowler communicated

to him, in my presence, every thing that had passed between Mr. Duffin and us. Mr. Corry expressed by his manner, disbelief and astonishment, and observed if Mr. Duffin had made a mistake, let him produce his books and pay the money, adding that surely he must be wrong in his head to talk such language, and to such respectable men as we were described to be—we then went away, and Fowler, who had got courage from the manner in which Mr. Corry had received us, became the more angry at thinking of Mr. Duffin's proposal, and was very unwilling to go back to him at all. But I prevailed on him to go back to him in the evening, in order to give him a decided answer; we accordingly went to him that evening—he told us that we must have been speaking to Mr. Corry, and seemed not on as good terms with us as in the morning.—Nothing more passed—we came away, and did not wait on him any more.

Thomas Sinclair.

Sworn before me, this 10th of July, 1810.
John Stewart. One of the trustees of the linen and hempen manufactures.

NO. 6.

Examination of Mr. James Corry, secretary to the Linen Board, taken before a committee of the Trustees of the Linen and Hempen Manufactures, appointed to take into consideration the 36th Report of the commissioners of accounts, at a meeting of the said committee, held on Tuesday, the 17th of July, 1810.

2. Did Mr. Fowler, the inspector for the upper district of the County of Down, or Mr. Sinclair the inspector for the County of Armagh, mention to you the purport of any conversation which took place between Mr. Duffin and them, at the time when they were ordered up to attend the commissioners of accounts? and if they did, state to the committee what passed, and every thing you know of the circumstance.

A. I will state to the committee, as directed by them, the whole of the knowledge that I have of every event connected with the subject under consideration, as far as my recollection will enable me to give them, and in the order of time in which they occurred; it is my wish to be accurate with regard to dates, if they are material, but should I unintentionally err in that respect, a reference to the minutes of the commissioners of accounts, and also to the minutes of this board, will afford the means of correcting me.—In January last, I think it was Monday the 15th, I attended the commissioners pursuant to a previous summons from them;

they had then under their consideration the account of this Board, for the year ended the 5th of January, 1809, which account now forms their 36th report, and a copy of which lies before this committee. The commissioners commenced their inquiries by exhibiting to me, sundry receipts of certain loom-makers, for sums paid for looms granted to female weavers, and for which sums credit was claimed in that account. Those receipts were five in number, and the aggregate value of them was three hundred pound, or thereabouts. They exhibited to me also a similar number of receipts comprized in the account of the preceding year, which upon comparison with those, which had before mentioned, appeared to correspond in name, value, date and purpose; and they required me to state to them, whether these receipts were for distinct separate deliveries, or whether they were not, as the instruments themselves expressed, to be mere duplicate receipts for the same purposes; the second whereof had been introduced through error, into the account before them. I replied, that in as much as the value of the sets of receipts had been actually paid to the inspector general, and that as the apparent duplicate was indorsed on a back with a certificate of the county pector, stating that the looms, therein pressed, were made and delivered, I was bound to believe, notwithstanding appearances to the contrary, that those separate payments were for separate deliveries; but as the whole of the distribution and payment of those looms had been conducted in the department of the inspector general, and that of the subordinate officers under him, he and they could explain to the commissioners, the seeming double charge. They were thereupon pleased to instruct me to move the board to give orders for the attendance of the officers who had certified the results in question. The examination of that day ended, I went directly from thence to acquaint the inspector general with what had passed, but he was not able at time to assist me towards accounting for the cause of the apparent double payments.—On the following morning, however, I received a letter from him, which purported to explain, that the receipts, though apparently duplicates, were not so in point of fact, and that the certainty in every particular could be asserted for in this way; and here while I was about to state the purport of that letter from memory, I wish to refer the committee for greater certainty, to the report of the commissioners of accounts, as it now remains on record. The

letter, I think, stated that from the extent of the engagement which the board had entered into with the public, for the granting of looms to female weavers, it often happened, that the looms were faster made, and in greater numbers, than the funds of the board would afford the means of immediately paying for, that in such cases, the loom-makers had been instructed to divide the amount into two equal parts, and draw separate receipts for the same sum, which they accordingly did, and as of the same dates, and that when these receipts were transmitted to him, one of them only was tendered to the board for payment, the other was reserved for future occasion, when their funds might enable them to discharge it, and that hence it arose, that receipts might be found in the accounts of different years, corresponding exactly in every particular, and appearing thereby to be mere duplicates of each other, whereas they were separate receipts, for separate deliveries. This letter though affording an explanation, apparently conclusive against the first belief of their being the effect of error, did not, of course, prevent me from complying with the desire of the commissioners, to bring up the officers, and accordingly, the same day, Tuesday, the 16th of January, being board day, I stated their wishes to the linen board, and obtained their orders to summon to Dublin, the inspectors for the counties of Down and Armagh. After the meeting of the Board, I again attended the commissioners of accounts.—I read and delivered to them Mr. Duffin's letter, and communicated to them the board's compliance with their wishes. Official letters were forwarded on Thursday the 18th, to Mr. R.J. Fowler of Hillsborough, inspector for the upper district of the County of Down, and Mr. Thomas Sinclair inspector for the County of Armagh, directing them to come to Dublin. My letter to these officers, as appears in the office letter-book, was as follows:

"I am commanded by the trustees of the linen and hempen manufactures, to acquaint you, that the commissioners of accounts having required an explanation of some items in their account, ended the 5th of January, 1809, now under the consideration of the said commissioners, which can only be given satisfactorily by yourself, they request you will lose no time, after the receipt of this letter, in coming to Dublin, for that purpose; you will be pleased to let me see you on your arrival, that I may apprise you of the subject of examination, and

arrange with the commissioners of accounts for your attendance on their board." I continued afterwards in daily attendance on the commissioners of accounts, whose inquiries became directed to other subjects connected with the account before them. On the morning of *Thursday*, the 25th, the two county inspectors, Fowler and Sinclair were shown into my office; being personally unknown to me, each had to introduce himself; I opened the subject of their being summoned to town, by explaining to them the items in the account, upon which the commissioners desired to see them, and expressed my satisfaction at the prospect offered to them by the letter of the inspector general, before mentioned, of accounting for the apparent errors, in a way that would occasion blame to no one. Whereupon I read the letter to them. Fowler replied by stating, that the receipts, about which they were to be examined, were not what that letter described them to be, but that they were really duplicates of former receipts, and then he explained to me, that those receipts had been obtained in the manner he has already set forth in the evidence, which he gave to this committee, in my presence. These particulars, I answered, must of course be explained to the commissioners of accounts. Whereupon Fowler undertook to give me an account of an interview, which he said, they had had with the inspector general, on the subject. His statement was to the same effect of that already made by him, and Sinclair, in their testimony given to the committee, in my presence. My manner must have expressed the distrust, and unwillingness with which I listened to it.—My answer was consequently very brief. It was something to this effect, namely, that such words as those could only fall from a man under some temporary lapse of intellect, but that I would, on that day, obtain from the commissioners, an order for their attendance, and bearing that they were both respectable men, I would not offend them by any advice, to tell the truth when they went before them. Before I left my office, Mr. John Greer, late inspector for Ulster, called on

me; I understood the purport of his visit to be, to endeavour to remove from my mind, any displeasure that might have arisen from Fowler not having come to me on his arrival in town, but learning from me, that Fowler had been just with me, and seeing me hurried, our conversation did not, I think, proceed further. I then went from my office to that of the commissioners, and carried with me the letter before mentioned, which in the variety of papers I had always with me, in going to, and coming from them, I had unintentionally carried away from their table; but which having been read and delivered to them, on a former day, in strictness belonged to them. Mr. Duffin was under examination when I was shown in. I reported to them that the inspectors had arrived, and would explain to them, when examined, that the receipts were duplicates, and I restored to them the letter at the same time. They ordered those officers to attend the next day, and required my attendance also. On the following day, *Friday* the 26th, I attended them accordingly. They had in part proceeded in the examination of Mr. Duffin and the two county inspectors, when I got there. I then heard these two officers confirm the receipts to be duplicates, and to have been obtained by them in the manner which they had before stated to me. The receipts were accordingly disallowed, and the value of them was deducted from the credit side of the account. This comprises the whole of the knowledge that I have of these transactions. But before I conclude my deposition in reply to the question of the committee, I beg leave to state my own opinion of those errors of account (as they originally stood) which have been attended with consequences so very lamentable. I do believe that they were the effects of accidental irregularity, not of intention, and this belief, I do assure the committee, is the result of a careful and serious consideration of the subject.

James Curry.

Sworn before me, this 17th of July, 1810. *Peter La Touche*, jun. One of the trustees of the linen and hempen manufactures.

No. 7.

Examination of Mr. W. Mackenzie, taken by a Committee of the Trustees of the Linen and Hempen Manufactures, appointed to take into consideration the 36th Report of the Commissioners of Accounts at a Meeting of the said Committee held on Saturday the 7th of July, 1810.

Q. Have you read the 36th Report of the Commissioners of Accounts, or that part which states that sundry sums have been disallowed by them in the accounts of this board, as duplicate payments for looms granted to female weavers?

A. I have.

Q. You have kept Mr. Duffin's books for some time past?

A. I have.

Q. Explain what you know of those duplicate payments?

A. Some time in the month of May, 1808, on looking into Mr. Duffin's linen board cash book, which I hold in my hand, I found that there was a deficiency of receipt from the linen board, compared with the expenditure, and therefore a balance due to Mr. Duffin.

Q. Have you any recollection of its amount?

A. No, I have not—I mean there appeared a general deficiency of fund belonging to the board, to answer the demands of the board, and I thereupon requested Mr. Duffin to look into his account in order to ascertain the cause of that deficiency, and with the assistance of Mr. Peebles during an investigation of three days, it appeared to them; that there were several receipts of loom-makers wanting, by which I mean to say that he had paid for several looms of which he had not received the money from the board.

Q. When did that investigation take place?

A. I have said some time in the month of May, 1808, or the early part of that year.

Q. Is there any thing in that book kept by you, which will account for Mr. Duf-

fin's supposing that the looms disallowed by the commissioners of Account were not paid in the former year?

A. The book being a general Cash-account of the miscellaneous receipts and payments of Mr. Duffin, on account of the board, not a ledger, is not calculated to afford an answer to that question.

Q. Was that book intended for the use of the board, or do you consider it a private account book of Mr. Duffin's?

A. A private account book of Mr. Duffin's.

Q. Does that book contain the receipts of Mr. Duffin as well as his payments?

A. I believe it does.

Q. Does it appear from that book that Mr. Duffin was overpaid at foot of his account with the board, respecting looms for female weavers when he received the amount of the duplicate receipts?

A. It does not appear from the first view of this book, whether he was overpaid or not, but were its contents posted in a ledger, such ledger must necessarily shew it.

Q. Have you heard from Mr. Duffin or from Mr. Peebles, what course they took to discover the cause of the deficiency?

A. I have.

Q. Explain it?

A. They took out all payments and all receipts on account of looms, and formed them into a Dr. and Cr. account, the result of which account seemed to show, that five loom-maker's receipts were wanting—I believe that that account is still in existence.

Q. Did you see that account?

A. I did.

Q. Does that book contain all the receipts of Mr. Duffin, for the year 1807?

A. This book begins 1st of May, 1807.

Q. Is it a continuation of any former book kept on the same principle?

A. Yes it is—the former book I suppose is in Mr. Duffin's office.

To be Continued.

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

ULSTER DEATHS.

On the 14th instant, in the prime of life, Charles Bowden, esq. surgeon to the county of Down infirmary. It seems to be considered as one of the privileges of BELFAST MAG. NO. XXVI.

friendship to speak of recently departed merit in terms of hyperbolical praise. The present occasion does not call for the exercise of that privilege. If we speak of Mr. Bowden as we ought, truth is panegy. G G

ric, and a correct statement of his character will amount to a just eulogium. His high professional reputation was the reward of very eminent qualifications. Of his surgical skill, the public appear to have formed a very proper and unexaggerated estimate; and it is to his honour, and was certainly to their advantage, that he did not suffer his mind to be drawn aside by speculative studies, or towards collateral branches of science, but applied its undivided energies to the study of surgery alone. This he cultivated with an ardent and lively zeal, the fruit of which was the unbounded confidence of an extensive circle of friends. It is no more than simple justice to say that the value of his professional skill was greatly enhanced by manners the most gentle and unassuming, by a mild and patient temper, and by dispositions of great kindness, humanity, and benevolence. It has sometimes been insinuated that professional men have condescended to wear an artificial character,

to be used as an instrument for the promotion of selfish purposes, and that in the pursuit of fame and fortune, they have, in some instances, trusted more to a dexterous use of the weaknesses, the caprices, and the humours of the human character, than to a knowledge of diseases, or an acquaintance with remedies. But all who knew Mr. Bowden will acknowledge, that he was an ingenuous man, untainted by affectation, and that he enjoyed from nature an original and constitutional aptitude for converting acquaintance into attachment, and casual knowledge into durable friendship. Let all those who are desirous of attaining the heights of professional eminence, make it their chief object to cultivate his virtues, and to rival his skill.

Of a pulmonary decline, Mr. Felix O'Neil, formerly a reputable teacher in this town, a man whose excellent qualities endeared him to many, in whose remembrance he still lives.

AGRICULTURAL REPORT.

From August 20, till September 20.

Since last report the weather has in general been fine, and a considerable part of the crops cut down, oats have been observed to ripen very unequally this season, and the farmers have experienced some difficulty in determining on the most proper time to reap it, so as to avoid the loss of the ripe grain by waiting for the green, this inequality has probably been occasioned by the long continuance of dry weather in the latter part of Spring, which retarded the growth of such part of the seed as lay nearest the surface, and which did not recover until the rain came on long afterwards.

It is a favourable circumstance that the weather has been so extremely fine, and seems likely to continue so, as it will allow the late crops to come to a maturity which they would not have attained had the season proved either wet or cold.

The late crops of potatoes have been much improved by the warmth and dryness of the weather, and will probably turn out better than their appearance at one period gave reason to expect.

The quality of the oats seems generally good, and although in some districts there is certainly a great deficiency, yet upon the whole we may venture to pronounce it a fair average crop.

The blast or smut in wheat does not now appear as extensive as the fear of the farmer at first suggested, the quality is good, and we may hope for a supply of better flour than last year's crop afforded.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

LITTLE now remains to be added to the full detail of our commercial situation given in our two last reports. There is no amendment, but habit is reconciling us to our state. The power of habit has strong influence on the human mind, for by long contemplating an object, it loses much of its power of inspiring dread. Thus without any improvement, the state of trade, the weight of taxes, and the loss of public credit may appear more tolerable.

The means of making out a living are becoming increasingly difficult to all classes of the community, except to rich capitalists, or to those who in one shape, or another are connected with land. The rise on it, and on all articles of its produce tends to

give an appearance of prosperity, but how long its value will continue to increase is doubtful, and a depression either in rent, or the price of produce would be severely felt by the numerous classes connected with it both as landlords, farmers, and labourers. It is not probable that speculations of advance on lands can proceed much further. Land like any other article may be advanced by the spirit of speculation beyond its proper limits, and we have lately witnessed the distressing evils which have flowed from over strained speculations in trade. In the mean time, people in small trades, retailers, and those who have fixed incomes suffer from the high rates of the produce of land, because they have not the means to shift the pressure of the times off themselves.

The rise on land, and its produce, has been principally occasioned by the too extended issue of paper, and the consequent depreciation of money. Thus, as the value of money decreased, articles bore a higher rate of price: Land rose, tenants profited while the leases lasted, and landlords increased their rents as leases fell in. But if their income was increased, their expenditure was also increased by the advance on every article of domestic consumption. If, according to the plan of the Bullion Committee, gold returns to us at the end of two years, this desirable circumstance must be effected by our circulating medium recovering, through progressive measures, from the depreciation into which it has fallen. Then, as the value of money rises, land, and the produce of it, may be expected to fall. In such a case, the very reverse of the present state may be looked for as the result, and tenants may materially suffer. Land-jobbing may then be as unfortunate a speculation, as the late overstrained extension of trade.

But it is to be feared that the restoration of our currency will not be suffered to proceed, but means will be found to frustrate the enlightened proposition of the Bullion Committee being carried into effect, and that the work of depreciation will advance with rapid strides. A constitution may become so enfeebled by disease, as not to be able to bear the strong medicines necessary for its recovery.

Brown linens have not fallen with us, notwithstanding the slack sale of white goods, owing to the high prices at which they have been laid in. The crop of flax this year is very abundant, and it remains to be seen how far this circumstance may operate on the brown markets, when the buying for next year's trade may commence. If linens do not fall, there is great danger of the linen trade being nearly lost to this country by the introduction of linens from the Continent of Europe into foreign markets, and by the substitution at home of cotton fabrics instead of linen. The hope of its revival rests on a reduction of prices.

Subjoined is an account of the flax-seed saved last year, on which a bounty of 5s. per bushel has been paid by the Linen Board. For the reasons assigned at the close of the account the quantity mentioned falls far short of the seed that was actually saved.

The state of the cotton trade is not better.—American produce does badly for the importer. Cotton wool brings a small profit. Pot ashes scarcely first cost; and on tobacco and flax-seed there is a considerable loss.

The sale of Alicant Barilla is attended with a heavy loss.

It is a matter of great uncertainty, whether any arrangements can be made to open a trade with France, notwithstanding the decrees and proposed regulations for that purpose. They at first excited a speculation in colonial produce in England, but it shortly subsided, from the uncertainty of any channel being opened.

The negotiation with America is in a state of great uncertainty, and of course our prospect of trade with it, as dependant on the issue of the negotiation, is very precarious.

Exchange has kept up through this month in Belfast to 8½ and 9 per cent. although lately it has been down to 8¼ in Dublin. Discount on bank notes is about 2½ to 2¾ per cent. The quantity of guineas on sale, and the demand for them in Belfast, has lately been very small, and the demand for them in England to send to the Continent, has for some weeks decreased. If they were required in large quantities, the premiums on them might, from their scarcity, be expected to rise considerably.

FLAX-SEED, SAVED FROM FLAX THE GROWTH OF THE YEAR 1809.

August 5th 1810.

An account of payments made out of the sum of 1,20,000 granted by an Act, passed in the 4th Geo. III. cap. 29, "towards the encouragement of the saving of Flax-seed for sowing in Ireland," showing the amount of money remitted to each county inspector on account of the said bounties, the payments made by them, the seed saved, and the balances due by them respectively, on the 5th day of August, 1810.

| COUNTIES. | INSPECTORS. | Amount remitted to each County for the Payment of Flaxseed to imities. | | CLAIMS PAID | | | | Balances due at the close of the Payment. | Re-pay-ment on 5th August, 1810. | Actual Balances due the 5th August, 1810. | |
|--|---|---|---|--|--|---|--|--|---|---|---|
| | | £. s. d. | £. s. d. | No. of Claimants. | Seed Saved. | Rate of Bounty. | Amount paid | | | | |
| { Antrim } { Armagh } { Londonderry } { Tyrone } { Donegal } { Fermanagh } { Monaghan } { Cavan } { Down } | { John Kelsey } { William Hogg } { Thomas Sinclair } { Hugh Boyle } { Robert Tennent } { Ben. Pattison } { Robert Cochran } { Daniel Bradshaw } { William Neill } { James Greer } { Edward McIntosh } { Richard Boyd } { Robert J. Fowler } | 200 0 0 } 150 0 0 } - - - } - - - } 1500 0 0 } 300 0 0 } - - - } - - - } 800 0 0 } 635 15 0 } - - - } 500 0 0 } 300 0 0 } | 350 0 0 903 15 0 875 0 0 1,800 0 0 2,100 0 0 900 0 0 1,435 15 0 330 0 0 800 0 0 | { 55 } { 216 } { 1,392 } { 1,469 } { 2,943 } { 689 } { 1,562 } { 2,929 } { 1,942 } { 1,138 } { 554 } { 829 } { 289 } | 309 313 3,615 3,435 5,793 1,092 8,587 3,421 3,057 2,164 1202 1,907 1,102 | 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 | 50 15 0 88 5 0 903 15 0 858 15 0 1,448 5 0 273 0 0 2,096 15 0 855 5 0 704 5 0 541 0 0 300 10 0 476 15 0 275 10 0 | 100 5 0 61 15 0 - - - 16 5 0 51 15 0 27 0 0 3 5 0 44 15 0 35 15 0 94 15 0 29 10 0 23 5 0 24 10 0 | - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 9 5 0 - - - 35 15 0 94 15 0 - - - - - - 24 10 0 | - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 9 5 0 - - - 35 15 0 94 15 0 - - - - - - 24 10 0 | - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 9 5 0 - - - 35 15 0 94 15 0 - - - - - - 24 10 0 |
| | £2,494 10 0 | | 14,597 | 85,927 | 8,981 15 0 | 512 15 0 | 158 5 0 | 354 10 0 | | | |
| | £2,671 0 0 | | 2,670 | 8,948 | 9,937 0 0 | 434 0 0 | 980 0 0 | 134 0 0 | | | |

| COUNTIES. | INSPECTORS. | Amount remitted to each County for the Payment of Flaxseed Bounties. | CLAIMS PAID. | | | Matrices due at the close of the Payments. | | Re-pay-ments on account of the 5th August, 1810. | | Actual Balances due the 5th August, 1810 |
|------------|-------------|--|-------------------|-------------|-----------------|--|----------|--|----------|--|
| | | £. s. d. | No. of Claimants. | Seed saved. | Rate of Bounty. | Amount paid. | £. s. d. | £. s. d. | £. s. d. | £. s. d. |
| MUNSTER. | Cork | 350 0 0 | 918 | BUSHEL. | | | | | | |
| | | 200 0 0 | 347 | 1,200 | 5 | 300 0 0 | 50 0 0 | — | — | 50 0 0 |
| | | 100 0 0 | 5 | 767 | 5 | 191 15 0 | 8 5 0 | — | — | 8 5 0 |
| | Clare | 100 0 0 | 80 | 128 | 5 | 30 10 0 | 69 10 0 | 69 10 0 | — | 42 0 0 |
| | | 400 0 0 | 579 | 232 | 5 | 58 0 0 | 42 0 0 | — | — | — |
| | | 300 10 0 | 747 | 1,596 | 5 | 399 0 0 | 1 0 0 | 1 0 0 | — | — |
| CONNAUGHT. | Sligo | 235 0 0 | 125 | 1,902 | 5 | 300 10 0 | — | — | — | — |
| | | 100 0 0 | 36 | 940 | 5 | 235 0 0 | — | — | — | — |
| | | 200 0 0 | 489 | 106 | 5 | 26 10 0 | 73 10 0 | 73 10 0 | — | — |
| | Mayo | 200 0 0 | 363 | 6,165 | | 1,541 5 0 | 244 5 0 | 144 0 0 | 100 5 0 | 51 15 0 |
| | | 861 5 0 | 1,253 | 593 | 5 | 148 5 0 | 51 15 0 | — | — | 5 0 |
| | | 750 0 0 | 601 | 1,599 | 5 | 399 15 0 | — | — | — | — |
| MUNSTER. | Cork | 270 0 0 | 574 | 3,445 | 5 | 821 5 0 | — | — | — | — |
| | | 300 0 0 | 489 | 2,996 | 5 | 749 0 0 | 1 0 0 | — | — | 1 0 0 |
| | | 200 0 0 | 489 | 1,002 | 5 | 250 10 0 | 19 10 0 | 19 10 0 | — | — |
| | Sligo | 200 0 0 | 363 | 1,189 | 5 | 297 5 0 | 2 15 0 | — | — | 2 15 0 |
| | | 861 5 0 | 1,253 | 593 | 5 | 148 5 0 | 51 15 0 | — | — | 5 0 |
| | | 750 0 0 | 601 | 1,599 | 5 | 399 15 0 | — | — | — | — |
| CONNAUGHT. | Mayo | 200 0 0 | 363 | 6,165 | | 1,541 5 0 | 244 5 0 | 144 0 0 | 100 5 0 | 51 15 0 |
| | | 861 5 0 | 1,253 | 593 | 5 | 148 5 0 | 51 15 0 | — | — | 5 0 |
| | | 750 0 0 | 601 | 1,599 | 5 | 399 15 0 | — | — | — | — |
| | Galway | 200 0 0 | 363 | 6,165 | | 1,541 5 0 | 244 5 0 | 144 0 0 | 100 5 0 | 51 15 0 |
| | | 861 5 0 | 1,253 | 593 | 5 | 148 5 0 | 51 15 0 | — | — | 5 0 |
| | | 750 0 0 | 601 | 1,599 | 5 | 399 15 0 | — | — | — | — |

ABSTRACT.

| PROVINCES. | Amount of Issues. | CLAIMS PAID. | | | Balances due at the close of the month of the Pay-ment. | Re-pay-ments on account of the 5th August, 1810. | Actual Balances due the 5th August, 1810. |
|------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------|-----------------|---|--|---|
| | £. s. d. | No. of Claimants. | Seed saved. | Rate of Bounty. | £. s. d. | £. s. d. | £. s. d. |
| Ulster. | 9,494 10 0 | 14,597 | 35,927 | 5 | 8,981 15 0 | 158 5 0 | 354 10 0 |
| Leinster. | 2,671 0 0 | 3,670 | 8,948 | 5 | 2,237 0 0 | 290 0 0 | 154 0 0 |
| Munster. | 1,785 10 0 | 2,837 | 6,165 | 5 | 1,541 5 0 | 144 0 0 | 100 5 0 |
| Connaught. | 2,781 5 0 | 3,923 | 10,824 | 5 | 2,706 0 0 | 19 10 0 | 55 15 0 |
| | 1,16,732 5 0 | 25,027 | 61,864 | | 15,466 0 0 | 601 15 0 | 664 10 0 |

With respect to the statement comprised within the column entitled, "Seed Saved," it may be observed that it does not contain, nor profess to contain an account of the *total seed* saved in the kingdom; but only that portion of seed saved, for which claims are duly made and discharged. Many circumstances will upon consideration tend to explain that the quantity of seed on which the bounty has been paid, to wit. 61,864 bushels, or 8837 hogheads, is greatly short of the whole quantity saved in the kingdom. In the first place, the board did not pay bounty for any quantity of seed less than one bushel, and therefore the above statement exhibits no account of those persons who saved but a part of a bushel, and who form, although the poorest, yet not the least numerous class who sowed and saved. Again many persons who saved seed refused to claim the bounty, on account of the objections stated in the Report of the Inspectors, general and provincial, and many it may be fairly presumed have neglected to claim; but still enough has appeared from the crops of 1809 to show the quantity of home-saved seed, which the country can contribute to its own consumption, and that in quality, it is not inferior to that of foreign growth, is happily proved by the prosperous crops of the present season.

NATURALIST'S REPORT,

from July 20, till September 20.

LOVELY Swallow, once a year,
Pleas'd you pay your visit here,
When our clime the sun-beams gild,
Here your airy nest you build;
And, when bright days cease to smile,
Fly to Memphis or the Nile. ANACREON.

Among the numerous subjects which have engaged the attention of Naturalists from the days of Aristotle and Pliny to the present period, there are few involved in greater obscurity than the migration of birds, and especially those which disappear in Autumn, and although the common Quail has been observed to cross and recross the Mediterranean in immense multitudes every Autumn and Spring, yet no one has mentioned a Rail being seen among them, which upon its apparent similarity of volant power with the Quail might be justly supposed a companion of its flight.—Unhappily for the progress of science, those who have the knowledge to establish a fact, are often deprived by their situation from observing it, so that they must be indebted to all that have the kindness to communicate discoveries, and from well attested observations, endeavour to arrive at the truth, hidden from the first observer.

The Swift (*Hirundo Apus*) the Reed bird (*Motacilla Salicaria*) White-throat (*M. cinerea*) Grasshopper Warbler (*M. Locustilla*) Wheat Ear (*M. Ceanothe*) Cuckoo (*Cuculus Canorus*) Yellow Wren (*M. Trochilus*) Martin (*Hirundo Urbica*) Sand Martin (*H. Riparia*) have disappeared. The common Swallows are setting off every day, and a few Rails are still met with by the Partridge shooters, but of this great congregation of annual passengers, not a single species has yet been decisively traced to their winter habitations, and the public have yet to listen to miraculous accounts of the watery immersion of Swallows, and of Cuckoos crying out of a block placed at the back of a rustic fire.

July 22, Large birds foot Trefoil (*Lotus major*) Laurel leaved Rock Rose (*Cistus Laurifolius*) and White Lily (*Lilium candidum*) flowering.

29, Currants and early green Gooseberries ripening.

August 1, Rail calling.

2, Shrubby Hawkweed (*Hieracium sabaudum*) flowering.

3, Scarlet Corn-flag (*Gladiolus Cardinalis*) growing in the open ground, flowering planted in a dry soil, this has been uninjured by the cold of the winter for some years.

8, A large specimen of Frog-fish or Angler (*Lophius Piscatorius*) cast on the shore of Belfast lough; this season several have been found on the shore.

10, Cornish Heath (*Erica vagans*) flowering.

11, Downy leaved spirea (*Spiraea tomentosa*) flowering.

14, Hollyhock (*Alcea Rosea*) White Convolvulus (*Convolvulus sepium*) and Autumnal squills (*Scilla Autumnalis*) flowering.

16, Scarlet Lily (*Lilium Chalcedonicum*) flowering.

23, New Jersey Tea (*Ceanothus Americanus*) flowering.

25, Yellow Wren (*Motacilla Trochilus*) White-throat (*M. cinerea*) Martin (*Hirundo Rustica*) and Sand Martin (*H. Riparia*) not yet gone.

Sept. 3, Variegated Meadow Saffron (*Colchicum variegatum*) Double Flowering (*Colchicum autumnale plena*) Swallow-wort leaved Gentian (*Gentiana Asclepiadia*) and profliferus St. Johnswort (*Hypericum prolificum*) flowering.

6, Superb Lily (*Lilium Superbum*) flowering.

12, Pilchards (*Clupea Pilchardus*) caught on the coast.

14, Clethra (*Clethra Alnifolia*) flowering.

19, Wood-lark (*Alauda Arbores*) singing.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

From July 20, till September 20.

| | |
|------------------------|----------------------------|
| July 21, 22, | Dry days. |
| 23, | Light showers. |
| 24, 25, | Dry. |
| 26, 28, | Light showers. |
| 29, | Wet evening. |
| 30, 31, | Wet. |
| August 1, | Wet. |
| 2, | Dry morning, wet night. |
| 3, | Light showers. |
| 4, | Dry. |
| 5, | Heavy rain and thunder. |
| 6, | Dry. |
| 7, | Wet morning. |
| 8, 9, | Dry. |
| 10, 12, | Wet. |
| 14, 15, | Light showers. |
| 16, 17, | Dry. |
| 18, | Wet afternoon. |
| 19, 20, | Dry. |
| 21, | Light showers. |
| 22, 23, | Dry. |
| 24, 25, | Showers. |
| 26, | Heavy rain in the morning. |
| 27, | Dry. |
| 28, 31, | Showery. |
| Sept. 1, | Wet evening. |
| 2, | Showery. |
| 3, | Wet. |
| 4, | Showery. |
| 5, | Dry. |
| 6, | Heavy showers. |
| 7, 9, | Dry. |
| 10, 11, | Showery. |
| 12, | Dry. |
| 13, | Light showers. |
| 14, 16, | Dry. |
| 17, | Light showers. |
| 18, 19, | Dry. |
| 20, | A shower in the evening. |

During the first part of this period, the Barometer seldom rose so high as 30 inches; on the 11th of August it was as low as 29.3 towards it varied from 29.5 to 30.3.

Although the Thermometer in the morning has been rather high for the season, yet some cold days have intervened, and on the 12th of September it was as low as 48° on the 13th it was as high as 61, a very unusual alteration in so short a space of time.

The prevalence of Southerly wind was so great as to be 31 times S. W. 7. S. E. and 4 South.

CELESTIAL PHENOMENA.

for OCTOBER 1810.

On the first day of this month, the Moon may be seen between Venus and the first of the Balance, directing her course to a point above Saturn, who, with the two first stars of the Scorpion will add to the splendour of this part of the Western hemisphere.

7th. She is on the meridian 57 min. past five, having under her the small stars in the head of the Archer. At nine she is 69° from the first of Pegasus.

19th. The moon is on the meridian at 34 min. past ten, having above her the four stars in Square, the two Eastern being to the East, and the two Western to the West of the meridian; at nine she is $74\frac{1}{2}^\circ$ deg. from Aldebaran, and of course at nearly the same distance, though not so far from the planet Jupiter.

15th. She rises under Jupiter and the Pleiades and is soon followed by Aldebaran, and the group formed by these stars will excite attention during the night. Before she sets she passes a large part of the Bull but does not reach Aldebaran before day light.

20th. She is in the barren space in the Crab, having passed the line drawn between the two first stars of the Twins and produced, and during the morning of the 21st we shall see these stars above her.

25th. She rises under Mars and near the second of the Virgin; and, as she ascends the heavens, we perceive to the East of her the five stars in triangle of this constellation; and on this and the following morning, we shall observe between her and the sun, before sunrise, Mercury and the first of the Virgin.

Mercury is in his inferior conjunction on the 17th at three quarters past nine in the morning, and of course he is an evening star during the former part of the month, but a morning star during the latter. The moon passes him on the 26th.

Venus is an evening star, being at her greatest elongation on the 17th, her motion is direct through about 30° being on the first about 6° from the south of the Scorpion and to the west of this star, under which, and above Antares, her course is directed, and she finishes it near midway between the eighth, the serpent bearer and the third of the Archer. The Moon passes her on the second.

Mars is an evening star, his height above the horizon at sunrise continually increasing; his motion is direct through a little more than 19° . The moon passes him on the 24th.

Jupiter is on the meridian at half past three in the morning of the 1st and at a quarter past two on the 19th. On the first he rises about eight in the evening and earlier every succeeding night his motion is retrograde through a little more than $2\frac{1}{2}^\circ$. He is in a conspicuous situation between the Pleiades and Hyades, but to the West of the line between these stars and Aldebaran, but further from the latter star, and this distance is daily increasing. The moon passes him on the 10th.

Saturn is an evening star, and his duration above the horizon after sun-set is daily decreasing; in the middle of the month, we may notice the passage of Venus by him.

The moon passes him on the 31st.

Herschell is but about 8 or 9 deg. above the horizon at sun set, on the first, and this height is daily diminishing. The moon passes him on the 1st and again on the 29th.

ECLIPSES OF JUPITER'S SATELLITES.

| 1st SATELLITE. | | | | | 2d SATELLITE. | | | | | 3d SATELLITE. | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------|----|----|----|--|---------------|----|----|----|--|---------------|----|----|----|-----|-------|----|----|----|--|
| Immersion. | | | | | Immersion. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| DAYS. | H. | M. | S. | | DAYS. | H. | M. | S. | | DAYS. | H. | M. | S. | | DAYS. | H. | M. | S. | |
| 2 | 4 | 16 | 14 | | 2 | 5 | 52 | 49 | | 7 | 17 | 24 | 2 | Im. | | | | | |
| 3 | 22 | 44 | 39 | | 5 | 18 | 52 | 1 | | 7 | 19 | 28 | 19 | E. | | | | | |
| 5 | 17 | 13 | 5 | | 9 | 8 | 10 | 6 | | 14 | 21 | 23 | 44 | Im. | | | | | |
| 7 | 11 | 41 | 30 | | 12 | 21 | 29 | 17 | | 14 | 23 | 28 | 34 | E. | | | | | |
| 9 | 6 | 9 | 57 | | 16 | 10 | 47 | 24 | | 22 | 1 | 23 | 19 | Im. | | | | | |
| 11 | 0 | 38 | 23 | | 20 | 0 | 6 | 35 | | 22 | 3 | 28 | 41 | E. | | | | | |
| 12 | 19 | 6 | 51 | | 23 | 13 | 24 | 44 | | 29 | 5 | 23 | 2 | Im. | | | | | |
| 14 | 13 | 35 | 17 | | 27 | 2 | 43 | 54 | | 29 | 7 | 28 | 56 | E. | | | | | |
| 16 | 8 | 3 | 46 | | 30 | 16 | 2 | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 18 | 2 | 32 | 13 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 19 | 21 | 0 | 43 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Look to the right hand.

| First Satellite Continued. | | | |
|----------------------------|----|----|----|
| 21 | 15 | 29 | 10 |
| 23 | 9 | 57 | 41 |
| 25 | 4 | 26 | 9 |
| 26 | 22 | 54 | 42 |
| 28 | 17 | 23 | 11 |
| 30 | 11 | 51 | 43 |

ERRATA IN NO. 25.

P. 100, col. 1, line 18, for Dillon, read Nathan... P. 145, col. 1, line 34, *dele salt.*,
P. 159, col. 1, line 20, for argument, read augmented... P. 164, 11th line from bottom,
satellites is omitted, read are omitted... P. 164, last sentence, for they read his,

BELFAST MONTHLY MAGAZINE.

No. 27.]

OCTOBER 31, 1810.

[Vol. 5.]

COMMUNICATIONS, ORIGINAL AND SELECTED.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

ON THE EDUCATION OF FEMALE CHILDREN.

As education has for some time become such a prevailing topic, both in books and conversation, there is reason to hope that not only some good will arise from the subject being so often canvassed, but that it will lead those who are inclined to improve on what has been written, to investigate without prejudice the systems of all parties, and from them form a rational mode for their own adoption. Among the late writers, though many of the prevailing errors in educating the higher classes, have been fully pointed out, both in a satirical and a moral view, those of the middle classes in educating their female children, still leave room for much animadversion; by the middle classes of females, I allude to the daughters of shopkeepers, of farmers, and in short of all those who are above want, though not above industry.

In the periodical papers of the last century, from Addison, down to M'Kenzie, though we may perceive our ancestors were not entirely free from the desire of making their daughters any thing but useful members of society, they seem to have been less improvident in that respect than their descendants. Miss, learning to embroider a resemblance of Sterne's Maria, as true as beautiful, or of Thomson's Lavinia, or of any other picturesque object from a celebrated poet or novelist, was then not uncommon, and we read of many instances of young ladies, learning the spinet and fillagree-work as being essential at that time to *finish* the education of a female.

As we advance in the order of time we must notice the present change in the fashion of accomplishments: sample-BELFAST MAG. NO. XXVII.

lers and embroidery for the most part it is true are laid aside, in general seminaries of education, but what works are substituted for them? Imitations of Miss Linwood's pictures in worsted; blotted paper called drawings, daubs of colours on velvet called paintings, and the piano forte, the all commanding piano forte, succeeds the humbler spinet. If girls in the rank of life that I have mentioned were taught to do these things really well, I would not object to them, for some good might arise from their being able to instruct their future daughters in these branches of modern education, but I believe I do not exaggerate, when I say, that not one girl in twenty, after her escape from the boarding school ever attempts to practise what she has learned to perform, or rather what it is supposed she can perform from the schoolpiece in needle work sent as a show to the happy parents, arrayed in gaudy frame, and exhibited *en spectacle* to each admiring visitor, as Miss Eliza's or Miss Rosanna's work, to the ruins of Rome in oil.

Parents are apt to imagine that their daughters have really executed these small but *miraculous* efforts of ingenuity; they seldom inquire whether the girls finished them entirely themselves, nor even suspect that they have no pretensions to their execution; but they wonder how soon this graphic talent is lost by their daughters, when in fact they never acquired it; all the trifles which they brought to their fond parents being partially or entirely the work of their master. Thus young women return home with the name of these acquirements, having also learned perhaps a few French idioms, a little babble of French, and an acquaintance with the novels of the day; novels they continue to read after their return home, and notwithstanding all the enchanting visions which they un-

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fold, of lords in disguise, baronets and gentlemen of immense fortunes, who throw themselves at first sight at their fair mistresses' feet, who have only peerless beauty to boast of; they condescend to step into real life, and marry perhaps a *tallow chandler* like your *Julia*.

I ask how are these women qualified to make useful wives for men in the middle classes of life; surely not by being able to play a few airs on the piano forte, or turning over the leaves of a library novel. How useful might a prudent girl make herself who is married to a tradesman, by having such a knowledge of arithmetic as to assist him in his accounts, and by superintending her family, and instructing her children in useful knowledge. But this would be fine lady, instead of these employments is occupied in the important duties of dress and visiting, and recurring to the beloved tales of imagination, which custom has made almost as necessary to her as her daily food, or should she condescend to appear in the shop and attend to its business she is dressed in the extravagance of fashion. If we turn to a country life, how respectable a character would the wife of a farmer or bleacher appear to us, who instead of these flimsy accomplishments, had learned to be economical and domestic, and whose mind was reasonably improved by instructive books.

I do not mean that she should officiate as a cook, or that she should educate her daughters like Lady Bustle in the 51st number of the Rambler, though by these she should serve her husband and her daughters, while by a contrary conduct she wastes his substance, and impairs her children's mind and virtue.

This knowledge is not carried to excess in our days, though we have our new works on domestic cookery: in Ireland particularly, the ignorance in which girls of all ranks are allowed to remain of domestic affairs, and such as are more particularly in the province of a female is highly reprehensible. In whatever situation a girl is placed it will be no disservice to her to know how to give directions to her household, and if things are done amiss to show that she knows "how

to find fault;" this a girl can only be taught at home where practice and precept may jointly assist each other, and this brings me to an important and final remark, that the education of girls should be domestic, and schools only used when girls are equally in want of parents and relatives to supply their place.

I have now concluded my observations on the errors of education in the middle classes, and I shall perhaps at some future time, extend my remarks, on the errors of education among people of a higher rank.

R. R.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

THE SERVANT.

Continued from page 243, No. XXVI. 73

"The lowly train in life's sequestered scene."
Burns.

IF the "Cotter's Saturday Night," of the poet Burns, contains a description of what Scotch cottagers really are, they differ widely from many of the Irish in cleanliness and economy, as well as in honesty and devotion. But "the clean hearth stone," the thrifty and economical wife of the poet's cotter, are to be understood with much allowance and limitation, if Miss Hamilton's character of Mrs. Mac Clarty, in the "Cottagers of Glenburnie," be generally applicable to the lower class of Scottish peasantry.

Jack's bride, whose name was Jenny, and some account of whom has been proposed, was descended from parents of negligent habits, in respect of cleanliness, defective in industry and domestic economy, inattentive observers of instituted worship, and not exemplary in strict honesty, especially in matters of little value. They inherited from their fathers a small farm, which, by industry and care, would have produced a competency of the necessities of life, and enabled them to support a family in decency, and comfortable independence. But carelessness and mismanagement constrained them to sell one field after another, of their paternal estate, to their more industrious neighbours, until they were at length reduced to the situation of cotters. While they

held the farm, it was not cultivated with diligence or skill: they neglected that draining, and furnishing with manure, which it much wanted. In tilling, they only scratched the surface of the ground, never opening it to a proper depth, either with the spade or the plowshare. Adulterated and bad seed, cast into poor soil, at an unseasonable time, produced a scanty crop; which, from the spring to the harvest, lay exposed to constant damage for want of ditches. In addition to the injury sustained by neglecting to rear hedge-rows, they were subjected to perplexity and much loss of time in constantly refitting old and ruinous fences. They inconsiderately left many things in and about both the house and the field to fall into ruin for want of a little repair. On one market day after another, their house and place were left, to a late hour, to the superintendence of the young and the thoughtless; while themselves were spending precious time, and wasting the profits of the day, in ceaseless babblings over the intoxicating glass, and in contracting the vicious habits of the drunkard. The useless expenditure of a shilling was reckoned a matter of little moment; and the loss of a day of less. The consequence was, their goods and chattels decreased, and they gradually dwindled from the comforts of the farm-house to the waste penury of the sordid shed. The evils procured by their negligence and vice, were ignorantly attributed to a blind fatality, which was conceived to be inevitable. "This or that disaster," said they, "was to take place, and we could not get over it." Slovenly and careless themselves, their children naturally and readily contracted and indulged similar dispositions. To be clean in dress and food, to execute what little work was allotted them, with accuracy, diligence, or neatness, they had never been taught. They were allowed to scamper about in idleness and folly during the whole precious period of early life, receiving little school education, and less private parental instruction. Such a statement is calculated to give no very favourable impression of Jenny's accomplishments for being a servant,

especially, when it is known, that by a false pride of the parents, and mistaken indulgence of their daughter, she was not sent to service for some years after she might have been making provision for herself. Evil habits were then acquired, which no subsequent training could wholly wear away. She could or would not be convinced that care and attention, even in little matters which daily occurred, would be productive of considerable yearly profit. Inexperienced and awkward, she was slow in forwarding, and clumsy in executing the greater part of her business. The farmer's house, where she was engaged, in all its apartments, bore visible marks of her unconcern and inaccuracy. Dilatory and imperfect performance of this and that piece of service, wasting fuel and food were reckoned matters of trifling importance. The kitchen was swept every day, but swept only in part. Whatever pieces of furniture were here allowed to be stationary, experienced no intrusion from the circulating course of the besoin, or the scrupulous exactness of cleaning under or about them. The fruits of the spider's industry remained unmolested. The canopies of beds, the top of other furniture, not much exposed to view, and seldom examined, were permitted to collect dust from month to month. In cleaning the rooms, which was not a daily task, she never thought of sweeping under the beds, or of exposing bedding to the wind, for the purpose of preventing mouldiness, and removing noxious air. By inattentive scouring and seasoning of vessels, their contents were soured. Good provision was sometimes lost, and frequently injured, in having its salutary and nutritive qualities partly destroyed, by unskilful and careless cookery. The meat was boiled and roasted to rags, the flummery at one time, and the broth at another, were singed by sudden and violent heat. Even the potatoes, the daily Irish dish, and one not difficult to cook, were incorporated with the water in boiling too long, or in being stewed upon a slow fire. Negligence left the toasting cake to burn to a cinder, and the precious pottage to boil over and be lost. Much of the refuse of the

kitchen was carelessly dropt into the sewer for conducting the foul water from the scullery. What remnants were preserved for the use of domestic animals, were partly lost in being thrown among dirt, or cast under the feet of the poultry and the swine. The wooden vessels were left to be spoiled under a burning sun, or kept wet, and thereby injured. A little attention to cleanliness and care would have prevented the offensive smell of the pantry and the dairy; but that attention was wanting. After taking into the account Jenny's deficient skill, and more defective inclination and endeavour to improve, her heedless and rash manner, as well as prevalent unconcern, it will be unnecessary to particularize the various misfortunes which befel the many things that passed through her hands. She did not seem to consider the brittleness of earthen ware, or that crockery and delf were not so hardy as pot-metal and stones. Crazy furniture, ere it had time to wax old, and maimed utensils bore evident marks of incautious usage, as did pot-sherds and broken vessels of rough and unhandy treatment. Of all her defects, however, she bore not the whole blame. Much of the advantage had by servants, or of the detriment sustained by them, is owing to the manner in which they are managed. A bad master and mistress never had a good servant; a good master or mistress seldom happens on a bad one. The family, with whom Jenny lived, were none of the most attentive either to their own concerns or her instruction. They either had not read, or had not put in practice Miss Hamilton's excellent rules for housekeeping: "To do every thing in its proper time, and to put every thing in its proper place." What Jenny should have done in the morning, was often deferred till evening. Not attending to it, or not knowing what piece of work should naturally precede, or follow another, she was often idle this hour, hurried and confused the next. By not having her time and services apportioned, as much as possible, to a morning, mid-day, and evening task, much of her business

was crowded into a late and unreasonable period of the day or the week. There would have been little difficulty in appointing one portion of service to be stately performed before breakfast, another previous to the hour of dinner, and a third in the afternoon. For example, the mistress might easily have prescribed the cleaning of her house, the removal of every thing offensive, the admitting of fresh air, especially where persons had slept, as the invariable first employment of every morning. Other business would have followed of course. Such regulations, the industrious and cleanly matron follows, to the credit and profit of herself and family: but such indolent and gossiping dames neglect and despise to their injury and disgrace.

About this house where Jenny served, no particular place was allotted for articles often used. More time was frequently spent in looking for the hammer and the hatchet, than had to be occupied in using them when found. It was no uncommon thing for the very wearing apparel, a hat, a shoe, or a stocking to be missing in a morning. Vexatious disappointment and delay to day, did not excite to more accuracy and punctuality to-morrow; so powerful is the influence of careless habits. As it was with the master and his man, so with the maid and her mistress. On this occasion the pot-hooks or the ladle had gone astray, on that the tongs disappeared; at one time a pot-fid could not be found, and at another diligent search for the beetle was in vain. Seldom was a meat taken, but a moggin, spoon, or porringer, a knife, or a fork of the known number was wanting. These were not borrowed and concealed by the interposition of fairies, as the ignorant and superstitious have supposed: but had fallen aside as the natural result of negligence and inattention. In looking for this and that article, twenty others were often misplaced, and thrown into confusion. The kitchen and scullery became a mingled scene of disorder; and shall we add, great was sometimes the huddle of the bed chamber and dressing-closet. Much time was thus spent, and the

furniture impaired, in being tossed to and fro. What slipped out of the way for any length of time, by contracting rust, or in being injured by damp, was rendered useless when found.

For these and the like evils, the master and mistress chided, but provided no effectual remedy. The servants readily acquitted themselves, or one rolled the blame upon another. Altercation kindled passion, and passion produced domestic broils. Such are the consequences resulting from unskillfulness in planning, and want of order in execution.

Besides the deficiency of Jenny's parental education, she received little good instruction from her mistress, either by precept or example. In the routine of her services, her attention was not turned, as it should have been, to cleanliness and accuracy; nor were these excellent household accomplishments put fully in her power. The family in which she lived were sadly defective in several little matters, a proper attention to which, would have contributed much to their comfort and health; as also to their interest and respectability. A very little trouble in sewerage underneath the clay of the room floors, would have effectually cured the damp, and prevented its baleful effects. The curtains and bedding would not have rotted, nor would the tables and chairs have eventually become useless, in having their glueing destroyed, and their joints opened. The furniture would have been less liable to mouldiness; and little concretions of this sort could have been easily rubbed away. It is astonishing how remiss the people over the country are as to the damp of their houses. They put themselves to expense in purchasing articles to be destroyed. They expose themselves to many disorders from damp apartments, and bad air. They risk their lives through carelessness, or to save a trifling sum. Were it not for the happy assimilating principles of human nature, the victims to damp dwellings would be many more than they are. For want of room, or rather from a mistaken taste, many contract their bed chambers upon too

small a scale. In these, the noxious breath, that has passed through the lungs is confined; and they are not accessible to fresh air. Were windows made to open, apartments could be ventilated at pleasure; but many are not thus constructed. Of those that are, the setting up of a sash would not be a difficult matter, yet even to this trouble the negligent are either unwilling to submit, or they deem it unnecessary. In the enjoyment of health they laugh at the means of its preservation, as if they were puerile and insignificant formalities. Happy is it for the dwellers in many a cabin, that the kitchen door, from custom, or of necessity, must be kept open, that broken windows are left to remain unrefitted; and that the numerous crevices of the walls give easy access to the refreshing breeze. In this way, however dangerous and indecent, that precious health has been often inadvertently maintained, which the inhabitants of filthy abodes are at little pains to preserve. Were places, where many sleep, occasionally fumigated by burning therein a little brimstone in some vessel, it would frustrate the growth of distempers; and be a means of preventing the deceitful and fatal influence of those tedious fevers which are so common in confined and crowded apartments, both in town and country. Let none imagine, that any divine purpose annuls the law, or supersedes the duty of self preservation. They grossly mistake, who think that diseases have an absolute commission disconnected from the means of injuring, or of preserving health and life; as they also do who vainly imagine that the stated law of natural causes producing natural effects, will be violated in their behalf by any miraculous interposition. The trifling expenditure of a few pence in fresh lime annually, would whitewash a whole dwelling-house, inside, give it a neat appearance, counteract still and contagious air, and promote cleanliness and health. For the neglect of these and other cheap preservatives of health and comfort, few indeed can plead want of ability. The majority are able to purchase such necessities, if they were willing. The money that

many viciously spend in clubs and parties, in gaming and drinking, in empty parade, on anniversaries in promoting party spirit, would do much more than defray the small expense here warmly recommended. How light a matter to any would be the spending of a few shillings compared to the loss sustained by the spread and protraction of contagious disorders in large families. Let all remember that the preserving of our own life, and the life of our neighbour is an important part of the duty required in the sixth precept of the divine law.

Jenny's master and mistress, possessing a false taste, were more inclined to decorate their own persons, and especially those of their children, than to improve their land, put the house in neat order, and teach their offspring the necessary economy of life. They had four daughters who read badly, and knew nothing of writing and accounts. To spin and knit a little was the scanty extent of their education. They were not taught to wash, to milk, to make butter and cheese, to nurse, to make and mend children's clothes, and their own. The cookery and other parts of housekeeping were conducted by the mother and her maid; while the daughters were allowed, in sedentary mood, to occupy a corner at the wheel, and remain in ignorance of the chief accomplishments of which they would stand in most need through the remainder of life. Sparing was the conversation of the female part of this family on the principal parts of domestic business, and as sparing were their manual exertions; but abundant was the chat on the fashionable gown, and modish head-dress; and to obtain these a grand object of pursuit. The daughters aspired to appear fine at church on Sundays, and at other places of public resort, arrayed not with the fruits of their own skill and handy work, but with the expensive vanities of the milliner's shop. In this ambition they were countenanced and joined by the parents. The tawdry decorations of the body engrossed attention; the superior ornaments of the mind were neglected. Adorned with this and

that gaudy appendage, awkward in gait and manners, forth they capered, from day to day, from a cabin, ruinous-looking outside, dirty, confused, and ill-furnished within. How unbecoming is costly attire to those who know not how to put it on, or wear it; to those whose rustic behaviour spoils all its lustre, to such as have nothing like it at home, in or about all the place of their residence. These girls, affecting to be gay and gaudy belles in single life, became sluts in the capacity of wives. They might have been clad in neat dress, principally of their own making up, suitable to their station, and suitable to what they were reasonably entitled to expect in a married state; while the savings from superfluous embellishment would have paid for some necessary education, and made their place of abode commodious and comfortable. Umbrellas and parasols made but an unsightly appearance on an unplastered wall, and under a sooty roof. The superfine pelice, and the costly mantle were unsuitably associated with dust and cob-webs in the worm-eaten press, and filthy ward-robe. Though her father kept but one horse, and, in seasons of pressing business, a second; yet the eldest daughter was furnished with an elegant side saddle, whip and bridle; accompanied with a fit riding dress. Suitably enough to her station, she married a neighbouring farmer's son, who, having but seven acres of land, could keep no horse. She could wear the riding dress, though obliged to jog on foot, or have it converted into a coat for her husband, or cradle-clothes for the baby; but the equipage was left to decay in a solitary nook as useless lumber. Had the females of this family, from early life, been habituated to cleanliness and industry, and to plain and simple dress, and taught exactness in the different departments of house-wifery, as they came forward in the world, they would have more successfully recommended themselves to the notice of the sensible and discerning, than they could by all their flounces and show; and they would have proved useful and agreeable partners throughout the journey of matrimonial life;

and suppose, as members of a numerous family, their fortune had been limited, skill and diligence in the management of domestic concerns would have more than compensated for deficiency of dowry. But they were deluded by the brilliancy of fashion, and stimulated to extremes in dressing by their own mistaken pride, and the envious exertions of their vying neighbours. Jenny too was fascinated by what she daily heard and saw. It required more self-denial than she possessed, to see new and fashionable pieces of finery, and not be anxious to have something like them. Her stinted wages came far short of gratifying her ambitious desires. When her utmost wishes still remained unsatisfied, she sometimes, under the influence of temptation, endeavoured to secrete and dispose of some little articles that were none of her own. She possessed a strong inclination to captivate the heart of some swain, and change a situation of reputed bondage in the house of strangers for the freedom she hoped to possess in being mistress of a cot of her own. This inclination was natural and innocent, but the means she took to gratify it, were not the most commendable. Her utility as a servant was permitted to decrease in proportion to her attachment to love intrigue. Her suitors might have had full liberty to pay their visits in open day; but she preferred the nightly interview, and stolen embrace. A window, in the chamber where she slept, admitted the amorous wooer at an unseasonable hour. Jack whose story has been partly told, was one of her fond admirers. The frequency of his visits, the importunity of his addresses, his fair promises, flattering endearments, and warm caresses terminated in the affair of gallantry already mentioned. To make reparation of damages, and cover their shame, they hasted to the altar of Hymen. Though rich in love, the day of their nuptials found this couple poor in worldly substance, and poor they remained for life. Having little wherewith to begin the world, it was difficult to make much advance of fortune, in the use of

their circumscribed means, though they had been industrious. Jack, in his estate of servitude, might have saved part of his earnings, had he been so disposed: Jenny's hire was barely adequate to the supply of recurrent exigencies, even though she had been influenced by no vanity of dress. The unequal wages of male and female servants is an existing evil. A farmer's man, who works but a part of the day, has from eight to ten guineas per annum; while the maid who must ply her daily, and not less useful task, from the time of her rising in the morning, till she retires to rest, only obtains the sorry pittance of thirty shillings, as the average reward of her half year's labour. This evil may be partly attributed to the force of custom, but is principally owing to the establishment of a local militia, and the systematical continuance of a wasteful war. In opposition to whatever impropriety custom may have hitherto sanctioned, the law of equity demands a melioration of the circumstances of female servants. To counteract, as far as possible, the evil influence of warfare, and make better provision for subordinate females, they might be more employed in manufactures and agriculture, than they now are. Spinning may be beneficial to the community, but it is a poor and unproductive art to the spinster. If women are the weaker vessels, there are various employments in husbandry and mechanics, in which they are not engaged, that would suit their supposed inferior strength. But many female occupations within doors, are as difficult as those which have been denominated the hardy labours of the field. To perform the work belonging to the laundry, the dairy, and the kitchen; to use the smoothing-iron and the churn-staff is not less laborious than to handle the spade, the shovel, the sickle, or the flail. While all females should be proficient in the management of the interior concerns of the household; in addition to such proficiency, one portion of them might be allowed to spin, a second taught some mechanical art, and a third engaged to assist the farmer in

the important, but much neglected business of agriculture.

Jack and Jenny, now in the state of wedlock, were still the more disposed to consult their own joint interest, rather than the advantage of those families where they served. It therefore became necessary to allow them to look out for a new habitation. They rented a hut, a garden, and other little accommodations, in the neighbourhood where they had mostly resided. Some trifling presents from a master and mistress, a crazy barrel, that Jack had won at a raffling, a *shake down*, two black oak stools, a little pot, and an old wheel formed the lean furniture of their cabin. A christening prematurely followed their commencement of house-keeping. In what was early begun, they succeeded even beyond their wish. A few years replenished their dwelling with a numerous and helpless offspring. In providing for these, and training them up, they were not very attentive or industrious, nor did they discover any great degree of solicitude, or exercise much economy. To sit late at night burning their fardling candle, and waste a large share of the morning's sun in bed, was their constant manner. They seldom sat without a fire, for although they made no turf of their own, they never wanted so long as any remained in the bog. To this kind of petty pilfering their progeny were early trained; and thus prepared for dishonesty in greater matters. Deeming their poverty a sufficient apology for their conduct, they boldly persisted in a practice, and encouraged their children in it, which generally passed with impunity. They knew well that the expense of a prosecution, to an individual in maintaining his rights, would be greater than the loss at any one time sustained by the theft. Notwithstanding this species of thievery, they were often heard to compliment themselves on the score of their honesty, and especially in things valuable; not considering that the farmer possesses few articles which cost him more than his fuel, or that he that is unjust in a little, would be unjust also in much. They were bad economists of what little substance

a fortunate combination of circumstances sometimes put into their hands. Whatever they had learned of the art of gaining a penny, they knew nothing of retaining it, or of prudently disposing of it to the best advantage. They lavishly spent the profits of to-day, never considering the probable penury of to-morrow. In seasons of plenty, they were so proud and independent, that neither flattery nor reward could engage their services. Repeated trials and straits, in times of scarcity, did not teach them wisdom when abundance returned. The poor man's folly, in the day of his partial and momentary prosperity, prevents friendship to him in the day of his affliction. Their ragged children, instead of being taught to work, were bred up in idleness and mischief. Instead of being hired so soon as able to make any provision for themselves, they were kept at home in poverty and laziness. These evils I have repeated and dwelt on, because they constitute a chief source of whatever immoralities prevail amongst the lower classes of society; and also of whatever injuries mankind sustain by such immoralities. It is the indispensable duty of those who have influence to exercise it in constraining to industry all who are able, and so soon as able.

Jenny, in purchasing what meal, potatoes and flax were needed for herself and family, carried on a secret and contraband traffic with the neighbouring farmers' wives. Many of these to gratify their gluttony, to gossip and riot with their guzzling and tippling associates robbed their husbands in clandestinely selling the produce of their farms at an undervalue. Whatever overplus Jenny, and such as she, needed not, or could not buy, they could assist to barter with a neighbouring huckster, or exchange for whiskey at the most contiguous dram shop. Though Jenny thus procured some articles at a cheap rate, yet taking into the account the loss of time, her absence from the little ones, the bad habits herself contracted, and supported in others, she would have had more profit in purchasing her necessities at a fair market. Had she remained at home, been frugal and in-

astrious, and kept her children diligently employed, she needed have taken no dishonest shift either for their maintenance or her own. But it is not strange, that poverty should prevail, and that there should be temptation to illicit practices, where a mother was busily engaged in tattling from house to house, while her heedless children were indulged in idleness and indolence, permitted to waste any small store they happened to have, and left to rend their rags to ruins for want of a little timely repairs.

Within, and all around the shed of this family, filthiness reigned without controul. Unwashed from the contracted dirt of the day, the children retired to rest: from a nasty litter they arose to sit down in ashes. Their uncombed and matted heads, their sordid rags, foul faces, and dirty skin, their filthy appearance, and more abominable habits, presented an expressive picture of the sluttishness of the mother, who, in all her dress and manners, exhibited demonstrative evidence of having wholly relinquished the gaudy ornaments with which she had one day made a happy conquest of Jack. She, that was once his darling nymph, clad in white muslin, could now leave him to wear an unwashed shirt for a quarter of a year; and slatternly content herself as long in a greasy garb, chequered with soot drops, and besmeared with every variegated description of filth. Her partner was not much more exact. He sometimes inculcated cleanliness, but set no example of it in his own conduct. Seldom did the purifying rivulet that trickled by the foot of his garden, besethe his hands and face; and still more seldom his legs or his feet. A beard unshorn for weeks, and clotted with dirt, gave him a grim aspect. The savour of his sweaty feet, and of the wily wisp in his *brogues* was none of the most fragrant: but contented and unmolested was Jack. The nasal organ happily loses its powers in those who live in stench. His chief place of gathering manure without the hut was at the very door step. Here a hollow was constructed by design where soil for the garden might rot and be conveniently collected throughout the year. Here, in a putrid reservoir rest-

ed an unsavoury medley of ashes and stagnant waters; of the dregs and refuse of the sordid hut. From this putrescent compost it is reasonable to suppose the cabin would be daily impregnated with exhalations of no very salubrious tendency. Through this sink a swine, which they sometimes kept, plowed and wallowed, and from this sink to its trough, seated inside of the family shed, it waddled a hundred times a day, daubing the fetid mud of its miry carcase on every thing with which it came in contact.

Let none denominate this a hyperbolical description, or allege, that such uncleanness is the unavoidable concomitant of the cottager's necessitous situation. Numbers having to struggle with all the difficulties usual to this rank of householders, are nevertheless neat and clean. Their coarse and homely clothing even when reduced to shreds and patches, still retains evident features of the cleanly taste of the careful wearers. The whole interior of the lowly cabin manifests the diligence and order of its active inhabitants. The cheap, the plain and scanty furniture is kept unsullied, the humble repast is handsomely served up, all the domestic affairs relative to the cot, the garden, or the little stock, are conducted with precision and economy. The children want not needful education, their early utility to their parents, and themselves at home, or at service, discovers the exemplary management and unwearied attentions of a virtuous housewife and her industrious mate.

The filthiness of Jack's abode sowed the seeds of disease, cherished and produced its abundant fruits. To cutaneous distempers and fevers his family were subject. By such, and a singular dearth of provisions for two succeeding summers, they were brought to the brink of famine. In this dreary state, notwithstanding all their foibles and defects, they became fit objects of the sympathies and munificence of the humane and charitable. It is a mistaken charity that goes to encourage the sturdy beggar who strolls about indulging his laziness, while he practises his premeditated impositions on the industrious, and that is withheld from the poor householder who would

fondly cleave to the walls of his cheerless shed, and follow some business for his own and his dependents' support, rather than beg from door to door. Such as are thus disposed should experience in the hour of need the cheering help of those whom a bountiful creator has prospered. O ye sons and daughters of plenty, ye sumptuous great, who roll in affluence, lend an ear to the cry of distress! Pity the forlorn case of the poor cottager struggling to bring forward an helpless family mid all the straits and hardships attendant upon his humble lot! Of your tables loaded with luxuries impart the crumbs to the meagre mother and her hungry brood!

"Ah! little think the gay licentious proud,
Whom pleasure, power, and affluence surround—

How many pine in want——

——how many drink the cup

Of baleful grief, or eat the bitter bread
Of misery! sore pierced by wintry wind
How many shrink into the sordid hut
Of cheerless Poverty!"

Seasons of plenty returning, Jenny and her partner, as they had little to lose, and received little upon credit, recovered their former condition so soon as a full meal delivered them from the devouring grasp of hunger. The sequel of their story so far as respects domestic life, was similar to what has been already detailed. They often changed their place of abode. To this they were sometimes impelled in consequence of the faithless performance of services, with which they were entrusted; as well as by becoming troublesome tenants. To this changing they always submitted with a fond hope of bettering their circumstances. Happy is it for man, that, when real enjoyments cannot be had, imaginary prospects support his spirits. Their children, after tedious loitering about home, came at length to be dispersed. One daughter, earlier put to service than her sisters, and happening into an industrious and virtuous family, became a good servant. Another full of airs and folly, and waxing wanton, preferred the infamous and ruinous intrigue of a girl of the town, to happy retirement and rural innocence. Two sons in a pet ran to the army; and a third in restless discon-

tent, travelled in quest of employment to another kingdom. Old age and infirmities crept upon the parents. To solace the afflicted couple, in their decline of days, and when stooping into the grave, rarely did their wretched hut experience a friendly visit. They had not been sufficiently solicitous through life to secure friends in the day of their greatest need. And if they had, how forgetful and ungrateful a being is man! Few, few indeed are disposed to visit the house of mourning, especially when it is the abode of Poverty! In indigent circumstances and under an accumulation of calamities, this pair made their solitary exit from a world of troubles.

Ballynahinch.

S. E.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

LUCY AND EMMA, A TALE.

Continued from No. XXVI. p. 186.

DOCTOR A——, was an elderly man of austere manners, but a sincere and tender heart; he had no feeling for the whims of any body, but felt true sympathy for real afflictions, and was known to encounter difficulties to relieve them, though he seldom spoke or moved merely to humour any one. He paid morning visits, but not with the view of killing time; he visited the dejected to cheer them; the sick or poor to relieve them, and such as Mrs. Thomson to endeavour to correct them; he was fearless of offending her, nor did he often affront those he reproved for it is well known that he did not intend it. Mrs. Thomson dreaded him more than she disliked him, and she would have borne his reproofs more willingly if he had communicated them when she was alone rather than in company; but Dr. A—— was regardless when or before whom he spoke; he was not as polite as people ought to be, but such characters are useful to show things in their true light.

At this time there was an amiable lady visiting Mrs. Thomson, who from the first sight of Lucy admired her and wished to have such a servant, but never mentioned her wish till she heard that Lucy was going to leave Mrs. Thomson. Mrs. Lesley was a woman of rare talents which she applied to literature or the elegant arts; she

read with attention, systems of education and plans for benefiting the poor; when her reading or drawing permitted, she was strictly attentive to her children, but a new publication, or a strong wish to practise some elegant art, or the company of an accomplished person totally withdrew her attention from these chief duties. Her head was generally occupied with some new benevolent scheme, but as she was acquainted with a variety of people, and read such a number of books on different subjects, one scheme was supplanted by another before it was brought to bear; thus nothing was done but the common and insignificant matter of giving half-pence to the beggars, and contributing to every subscription. Whenever she thought on the subject, she abhorred oppressing her servants, therefore she had a great many of them, but she never went into the kitchen, nor knew how much or how little was to be expected from them, or in what time any thing should be done. She was seldom importuned with their complaints, but when they did occur she listened with that good nature which she always felt. but which she seldom turned to much account for want of that perseverance and that solidity which alone produce true reformation, or give permanent relief. Whether Lucy's interesting person or manners, or her melancholy history first drew Mrs. Lesley's attention it is difficult to determine, but she paid steady attention to all the scenes which happened to come before her. She justly appreciated Lucy's worth, and on hearing that she was going to leave Mrs. Thomson she proposed to her to be housekeeper with her. Lucy gladly consented, but told her she was a stranger to the customs of great houses, and dreaded not knowing the way to manage servants; she also told her that Mrs. Thomson was never willing to listen to complaints which she thought it her duty to make. Mrs. Lesley promised all the assistance she could give her, and was charmed to find one whose fidelity she could trust, as she had little dependence on her present housekeeper.

In the mean time Betty's love of drinking increased to such a degree that she was in the ale house at all hours; one day she took Jane with her

and totally forgetting her, she returned home without her. In vain Lucy enquired for the child, in vain she attempted to tell her mistress of her loss. Mrs. Thomson was busily engaged talking to a lady just returned from London on the fashions and amusements of the day. Little Anna was sent in to entreat her mamma to come out. "To whom child?" "To Lucy, mamma." "Well Miss Morris these servants are a plague, they never let you rest; pray Miss Morris is there any machine discovered yet for a house and children to be minded without servants or without your continually keeping it in motion? I would consent to wind it up once a week." "No indeed ma'am, I have heard of no such thing; I wish there was, for children and those hateful domestic matters require such constant attention that they become quite a tax upon our pleasures; yet in London a person would suppose there was such a machine underground, for you never see the ladies trouble themselves about either." "How I wish Mr. Thomson would live in London!" This charming discourse was interrupted by the entrance of Mrs. Lesley introducing Lucy all trembling and in tears, carrying in little Jane dreadfully mangled. She found her after a great deal of difficulty in the arms of a poor carrier whose car had rolled over her; the child was still alive and clinging to Lucy. Mrs. Thomson grew pale, but could not think what was to be done. Lucy had effected her purpose, put the child on the bed and dressed her wounds, and thought and acted as quick as possible, but Jane would not suffer her to go out of her sight. Inquiries were made into the whole business. Mrs. Thomson was obliged to acknowledge that there was but one wheel in her machine which was sound, and when that was allowed little power the whole went wrong. Betty was discharged; Lucy could not leave the house until little Jane was recovered, she attended her with the greatest care and all the children were sorry to part with her. Owen gave her a parting sermon. "Young woman, always hope for the best, and never fear doing the best you can; that is my advice, and I give it to you

with my blessing." Lucy wept her thanks. Mrs. Thomson was not a woman who reaped lasting advantage from the mistakes arising from her own neglect; her life was a round of insipid pleasures, flagrant errors, and momentary, ineffectual repentance, so that Lucy's staying or not was a matter of little consequence to the family.

The day after Lucy left Mrs. Thomson she had a good deal of company, and Doctor A—— unexpectedly entered. "Mrs. Thomson," said he, "why have you sent away that good countenanced young woman who served you?" "It is to be supposed," said Mrs. Thomson, "that I had sufficient reasons for it." "Whatever doubts I might have," replied he, "yet I expressed none, but simply asked the question;" she then answered that "Mrs. Lesley has some romantic notions of improving the arrangement of her family, in which she fancies that girl may assist her; but she will find that servants must be servants, and treated as such." "I am glad," said Doctor A—— "that there is any one who has even a *wish to do right*, and right is so seldom done that the idea seems romantic; as for the generality of you, you exalt yourselves so high that the miseries of your servants, and the cries of your children cannot reach you; but if a favourite lap-dog hangs its head, or a canary bird droops its wing, you are all sensibility; and like the law that hangs a man for stealing a sheep, you dismiss a servant for tearing your laces and such trifles. "Trifles!" said Mrs. Thomson, "any person that buys lace now, will find it no trifle." Doctor A—— replied "I look upon lace and all such things as trifles, light as air." "Ah! Doctor A——" said an affected young sycophant of Mrs. Thomson's, "you are very severe; surely that, which so much beautifies beauty can be no trifle either to us or to the ladies." "Such nonsense," said Doctor A——, "might do for young girls who pay too much attention to your frivolous conversation, but for the mother of children, the head of a family to think more of her ornaments and her dress than of her domestic affairs is not only unaccountably ridiculous, but criminal in the highest degree." Mrs.

Thomson in vain endeavoured to turn the discourse, but Doctor A——'s respectable character and impressive tone always gained him attention. Indeed his bluntness to the proud, who generally keep their companions in awe, was frequently an amusement to the younger part of his audience. He asked Mrs. Thomson whether she did not think herself accountable for the comforts and virtues of her family? "I do not," said she, "think myself accountable for that which I pay others to do." "Virtues and affections," said he, "are not bought and sold with money, but with like specie, therefore take my word for it your neglect will be paid with neglect; the affectionate guardian of her family will be paid with affection; and those who are virtuous here, may hope to enjoy the reward of such conduct in a better world." Mrs. Lesley's fine understanding and generous heart made her discern that there were errors in her domestic management, and induced her to listen to probable means of rectifying them; she was apt to indulge sanguine hopes of any thing new, and she fancied that Lucy would reform those affairs with which she seldom meddled, yet was at times sensible they were important parts towards promoting the harmony of the whole.

Lucy's office was to keep the keys and oversee the whole business of the house; she found the servants lazy and irregular, but the amiable disposition of the mistress was in some degree reflected upon them; the family was like a kingdom ill governed by a well disposed, inactive prince; those who were nearest Mrs. Lesley's person were comfortably provided for, or lived in a degree of splendour, but the kitchen and the servants' room were truly wretched; no neatness, no regularity, nor even the commonest things necessary for their comfort; if a new and convenient utensil was purchased, it was broken, or let to rust, or put to wrong uses by those who were at no expense in procuring it; and never seeing or feeling the good effects of regularity, they did not aim at it. Though Lucy was vested with full power to remedy evils, yet as the case among servants did not seem so desperate as that among children,

she was in no haste to make innovations, believing that gradual reform was the best means to alter such inveterate habits as she observed; nor did she find pleasure in appearing to know better than any one else how to act, but would willingly have sheltered under her mistress' orders. The kitchen maid, who was the slave of all the servants, was continually hurried from one thing to another, so that it was impossible for any thing to be well done, or for her to have time and inclination to make her dismal abode clean; yet a little boy was even a greater slave than the kitchen maid; he was expected to run errands for every one in the house, and to do most of their work, thus supplying the deficiencies which were caused by their laziness or bad management. Mrs. Lesley did not know that such a being existed, nor had she the slightest idea that such slavery was practised under her roof, yet she who reprobated oppression in every shape, was the cause of its being exercised by her inattention; for there is no rank in life which should exempt a woman from knowing how every branch of her family is situated, and the order in which every part of her family is kept; she might know this without going out of her sphere, without neglecting her children, her friends, or even her more ornamental employments; the order and happiness of her family should be her chief concern, all the others are only to be considered as secondary recreations.

If indolence is suffered to predominate in youth, it prevents us from taking an interest in any duty we have to perform. Lucy had an active mind, and was accustomed to feel a degree of anxiety in any pursuit; this disposition was first observable in her mother's affairs, and still continued about the affairs of her employers. She spent some time in Mrs. Lesley's family, making observations, and endeavouring to discover the origin of the evils she perceived; as she was in high favour with Mrs. Lesley, she spoke freely to her of every thing, and held consultations with her about the best manner of reforming household affairs. Lucy was

empowered to do all that she thought necessary, and perhaps it was best that she felt herself oppressively accountable. She thought that many mistakes arose from servants hurrying from one thing to another without any method; this is generally occasioned by inconsiderate and contradictory orders. She determined first to improve the condition of the kitchen maid, and she did not allow her to do the business of the other servants; she got all the kitchen utensils, and when they were clean, she told the kitchen maid the use of them. Lucy had a mild manner, and well governed passions, so that when people were not determined to dislike her, they must love her: she rather made requests than gave orders, she advised or recommended rather than found fault. At first the kitchen maid thought she had a bad prospect of getting through her work; both to do her former work, and to be clean, was truly hard, but she soon perceived that her time was more comfortably spent, as well as more easily; she neither soiled nor wore out her clothes as fast as formerly, nor scalded herself so often, because she was provided with things that saved both herself and her clothes; and by doing only her own business she had time to sit down in the evenings, and looked with pride and pleasure at her comfortable abode. Mrs. Lesley was induced from the accounts she had heard of the reformation in the kitchen, to go to view it; she had glanced into it once before, but shocked at the sight, turned away from it, fully believing that these menial beings must live in hovels, either of their own, or their master's; but she was now charmed at the reformation; her benevolent heart was delighted with the idea that her attendants need not be wretched, and she determined that they never should want necessary comforts. She thanked Lucy for all this happiness; she would gladly have purchased such comfort and kitchen brilliance at considerable expense, but there was none required, except a little white-wash. To turn every thing to its proper use was all that was wanted.

The other servants gradually felt the good effects of Lucy's active and steady government; if the children ordered them too quickly to be obeyed, she represented the impropriety in an undeniable manner. Every one did their regular business, and there was always leisure to do that which was unexpected, or to sit down to their sewing; there was nothing found to be done by the little boy, whose condition could not be so bad in a miserable cabin as in this splendid mansion; indeed he got bread, or meat, or whatever was to be found in the way, but he never had time to eat a regular meal.

There was still one thing which weighed heavily in Lucy's mind; this was the wretched bedding of the servants; although Mrs. Lesley's ear was ever open to her complaints, yet so young a person must feel awkward in proposing such universal alterations. One day she requested Mrs. Lesley to walk through the house with her; she consented, and was much shocked to see the wretched state of the servants' rooms. There were two small windows which could not open, but being of a fanciful shape, were placed in the front of the house for ornament. Two fusty beds too tattered to bear shaking, were laid upon the relics of costly old bedsteads, whose fluted posts were filled with dust, and in whose curious carvings, spiders and worms found repose; some wretched fragments of curtains hung round, these and the bed clothes equally miserable, produced little warmth; a looking glass without a frame was placed against the back of a chair; there was not a table in the room; servants' clothes hung round, or were stuffed into corners. There was no fire-place, no ventilation, except a pane of glass which was broken, and neglected from time to time to be mended; the room being so near the slates, was wretchedly cold in winter, but in summer the same cause produced oppressive heat. Mrs. Lesley was extremely surprised to see so much wretchedness in her house, and shocked when she considered that those people who supported her splendour, and promoted her luxurious ease, should be so ill provided for.

It may seem strange that they never complained, but the dread of being dismissed, and the immeasurable distance between them and their mistress, kept them silent, or made them think it impossible to get redress; if they spoke to the former house-keeper, they were told "the place was too good for them, and if they did not like it they might return to their cabins."

Mrs. Lesley immediately got the windows altered, the room white-washed, new, but plain bedsteads, and every thing calculated both for comfort, and to encourage ideas of neatness, which Lucy assured her was frequently aimed at even to a degree of elegance in decent cabins. Mrs. Lesley was determined that her house should not be a place for making the condition and taste of the poor worse than they were at home, but if possible to inspire them with such notions, and insist on such practices as would make them good house-keepers for themselves. Without such an assistant as Lucy, these resolutions of Mrs. Lesley might have degenerated into whims, but her steady exertions brought them to bear.

Another evil which Lucy daily observed, was the waste of food. Broken or cold meat was thrown either to dogs or beggars, which ever came first into view. Lucy who was accustomed to frugality as well as beneficence, was shocked to see waste or want; she then made a practice of putting by stirrabout which was left, and boiling it with broken meat and bones after dinner, thereby assisting a greater number of poor, and providing food more suitable for the sick and old, than either material alone would afford. Mrs. Lesley was informed by her children of every improvement; witnessing and considering these things gave more stability to her wavering though benevolent feelings. The goodness of the new housekeeper was universally known, and she was daily applied to by the poor, but she could do little for them, except to give them broth, and when more seemed requisite, she applied to her mistress, whose benevolence was daily extended. Mrs. Lesley found that practice was a

better teacher than theory, and that no amusement was so interesting as succouring the distressed; she found she had leisure for every avocation; the business of educating her children was making progress when she set them a good example, and employed them in assisting her in acts of benevolence. Lucy became more her companion than her servant; she gradually discovered that Lucy possessed taste as well as sound sense, literary accomplishments as well as domestic ones, which raised her still higher in her estimation. In the fulfilment of her duty, Lucy became cheerful and happy, and the poignant grief she had felt at her mother's death gradually wore out of her mind, but her excellent example, and amiable disposition was still fresh in her recollection.

By the time that Lucy had accomplished her highest wishes in the family of Mrs. Lesley, and her exertions proved more beneficial and extensive than she expected, Henry Sands, a young man who had lived in the same village, but who had been abroad for many years, returned to his native village; he inquired for Mrs. Smith, the friend and adviser of his youth, but he was distressed to hear that she was dead, and that Lucy had not only lost her mother, but the means of living independently in her mother's house. Although he was very young when he had last seen her, yet her sweet countenance, gentle manners, and dutiful conduct had made such an impression on his mind as no change of scene had effaced. Whenever the idea of returning home rose upon his mind like a charming vision, he felt delighted at the prospect of seeing Lucy and her mother. The melancholy tale which he heard fanned his infant flame, and raised his curiosity to see how Lucy could endure servitude, and would appear in her new situation. Henry went to Mrs. Lesley's, and was joyfully received by Lucy; Mrs. Lesley had given strict orders that all Lucy's acquaintance should be introduced to her; Henry was well received, and he was not disappointed in the hopes he had entertained of Lucy. Mrs.

Lesley interested herself so much about the young man, as to inquire what business he intended pursuing, and when she found none was fixed upon, she proposed to make him her agent; this was more than he had expected, for fortune had not been propitious to him. Henry and Lucy became so truly attached to each other, that with the full consent of Mrs. Lesley, they were married; but she knew not how to part with her, neither did Lucy like the idea of leaving Mrs. Lesley, who had behaved like a mother to her; Lucy was like an elder sister to the children, and a guardian and benefactress to the servants; every person in the family was dear to her, and she to them. At length the day of separation came, which was a day of lamentation; the servants dreaded that the golden age was over, and that they should relapse into their former condition, but Mrs. Lesley had now acquired a habit of knowing the state of her family; another housekeeper of Lucy's recommendation was provided, and she removed to a neat house about half a mile from her mistress. She was still consulted upon every important occasion; and no delight to Mrs. Lesley's children was so great, as receiving permission to spend a day with Lucy, nor was it a transient pleasure, for they talked of it until the next visit. But though Lucy thought it a great duty to pay attention to Mrs. Lesley, yet nothing could draw her first attention from her husband and family:

"For borrowed joys abroad we roam,
"True happiness is found at home."

In the mean time Emma found, that contrary to the representation of novel writers, there was trouble in married life, even when united to the man of her choice, and who really proved affectionate; she considered her situation as truly wretched, to live in the midst of fields, and to have little leisure to read novels; her unharmonized mind heard no music from the birds, saw no beauty in the creation, and felt no interest in the affairs of her family. Her neighbours were mostly plain farmers, who felt

little cordial affection for her, but whose hospitality made them wish to show kindness to her, but their simple attentions were rejected, and there was no chosen friend and confidant to whom she might relate her grievances; sometimes indeed an intimate female friend came to pay her a visit, who listened to all her complaints, pitied her, reminded her of those trifling circumstances which she had not observed, and by the time she had made her completely miserable, left her with her unhappy husband, to manage as they could. Emma had never been accustomed to settle to any useful employment, and by this means her house appeared to have no mistress, and her husband no companion; nor was she accustomed to consider or contribute to the comfort of any person; she never endeavoured to make her husband comfortable. Thus without any real affliction she destroyed her own happiness, and the happiness of every person near her; and as far as her power extended, she was useful to no human being. Lucy on the contrary experienced real sorrow and oppression, but her patient mind, and good understanding made her happy, and singularly useful to all around her. R.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

REPLY TO THE REJOINDER OF S. E.

IF S. E. had contented himself with asserting, and showing, that Mr. M'Henry was not alluded to in his "letter to a student at college," any thing further from me on the subject would have been unnecessary. He would thus, at once, have rendered every remark of mine irrelative with respect to him; while at the same time the charge of want of penetration must have attached to me. To such a charge, under the circumstances stated, I would have cheerfully submitted.

He has, however, pursued a very different conduct. He wishes to retort my language on myself. From being the accused he becomes the accuser. He at first sets out with showing, or *endeavouring* to show, that he is innocent of those charges I have brought against him; but yet, as if he were himself somewhat in doubt, that

he might perhaps have hinted a little at the Bard of Erin; and as if he *consequently* considered that those charges which are applied, and only applicable to him under the idea that he *was* guilty, still affected him, he says, I have charged him either directly or obliquely, with ignorance, stupidity, misrepresentation, &c. &c. &c.

He then begs leave to ask me in a quotation from myself, whether I conceive such language suitable to the improved manners of the present times, and says, he hopes I do not.

I must in my turn, beg leave to differ from him in opinion on this subject. Had his letter been written, as I believed it was, and I presume the circumstances stated will justify that belief, with the malignant intention of blasting the prospects of a young man of merit, and acknowledged abilities: had it been written with the envious intention of prejudicing the public mind against the incipient sparks of real genius; genius struggling with difficulties and infirmities, as Amicus has well expressed it. Had it been written, as it apparently was, with the unfeeling intention of placing in a ludicrous point of view and holding up as a fit subject of ridicule, personal infirmities, I would still be induced to think that not one of these accusations as they stood in my answer, were misapplied; nor could they insult the manners of any age, however refined.

The English language is not wanting in descriptive epithets of all kinds; but numerous as they are, we frequently find ourselves at a loss to express in terms sufficiently strong our abhorrence of a certain obliquity of character, a kind of levelling or detracting principle which we frequently meet with in individuals, and which is practised with an assiduity that argues a belief on their parts that the world will give them credit for those good qualities they enviously flattered themselves they have pilfered from others.

I would therefore observe, when such characters are met with and when such terms are applied to them as they deserve, be these terms ever so severe, that it is not they who use the language, but they who call it forth, that insult the manners of the

times. A painter may gain reputation in the execution of a piece even though the original were the most hideous monster.

The remark on the inaccuracy in my language I consider to be puerile, and altogether unworthy a man who makes any pretensions to literature. It comes with a particularly bad grace from a person who writes such sentences as the following:

"Where innate capacity, stamina to work upon are not education cannot communicate them."

"A man born with no brains capable in future life of thinking for himself, with no inherent talent for observation and reflection, with no embryo fitness for collecting a stock of common sense, communicating it to the world, may through the long and assiduous drilling of schools and colleges become a made man an artificial being, a sort of human machinery; yea he may become an adept in the superficial matters of letters, but never will be a successful, an entertaining, an instructing, or original author."

"General censure, when no name is mentioned, may be improven by all to whom it applies without wounding the feelings of any individual before the public."

"This publication appears to me to have been rather unseasonable both as to time and place."

Errors are the con-comitants of human productions. I have not selected these sentences with a view to prejudice the public against S. E. as a writer. I will even do him the justice to say that had he met with similar inaccuracies in the writings of another, or could he divest himself of that parental affection which attaches every person to his own language, and blindfolds his judgment respecting it, he would, at once, have detected them. He will now however more forcibly see the propriety of taking the beam out of his own eye, before he attempts to take the mote out of his neighbour's. A.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

ON IMPROVEMENT.

I LATELY spent a day or two with an eminent bleacher of the North, who is a most zealous supporter of BELFAST MAG. NO. XXVII.

our glorious constitution in church and state, and crows upon the steeple of Protestant ascendancy. The morning after my arrival, he took me with him, to show me the process used by him, with great success, in the new method of bleaching. As I entered a small apartment, the peculiar air affected my eyes, and nose. Oh, said I, I think I smell French principles. What do you mean, replied he, very drily, by French principles? Why, said I, the principles of the French philosophy, which have overturned completely the despotism of phlogiston, a name which ruled, with its "ipse dixit," like Aristotle, or Alexander, and have introduced instead, another principle, called vital air, or oxygen with which they design to cleanse and purify every thing. I have not much acquaintance, said he, with these hard words, but I am certain, that wherever the discovery came from, it is an excellent, expeditious, and with proper precaution, perfectly safe method of bleaching; and that bundle of webs you see lying on the grass, and nearly white, were put last night into the vat as full of spirit, as this web which I hold in my hand. And what are the materials used? None, but the most common, common salt, oil of vitriol, and that black stuff called manganese; which we at present import from abroad, but I am told there is plenty of it in Ireland, and not farther off than the Hill of Howth. Have you known, said I, many changes in the method of bleaching? O, said he, a number, from the buttermilk sour which turned putrid, to the vitriol sour, which in the way it was used, often burned the cloth, but this is the safest and best sour yet invented. How were these changes relished? Why, at first they were disliked, some laughed at them, others were afraid of trying them, others lay quietly by, and while they sturdily spoke against them in conversation, or did not chuse to be at the risque, trouble, and danger of adventuring, waited until their neighbours had tried the experiment, and when it was found to serve the intention, then they fell in, and became its greatest advocates. What then are the advantages of this new improve-

ment? It saves time. It saves labour, and in short, it whitens the cloth, without weakening its strength and its fibre.

Now, my good friend, it seems strange, that you, who are so much for speculation, adventure, and improvement in your own profession, should think that the constitution of politics can never stand in need of improvement. For my part, I consider a reform in the common's house of parliament, a *sine qua non* of national education. Education is only bleaching a brown web into a white one. These are both processes which admit of much abridgment. The common mind, dirty and soiled, like the brown and soaped web, may be whitened and purified more safely, certainly, and expeditiously, than it has been. In that dirty orange is contained the essence of the process, its vital air. Its virtue lay, and would still have lain neglected, had not the power of philosophy drawn it from its darkness and dungeon. In this coarse and unpromising ore, we discover that vital air, that popular power, which those who know its value, and those only, can draw forth, to purge, and purify the stains and foulnesses, which every thing on earth contracts, mental or material, and what is oldest, most. There is a hidden value in the most common things. Blest is the government which has the inclination to educe it. But most governments wish the manufacture of mind to lie idle. Their neglect, like buttermilk sour, rots the cloth. Their vitriol sour of strong government burns it. Our weakness, our vices, and our prejudices are found the most productive sources of revenue. The cloth will at length be whitened by nature's process; by the air, the light, and the water: so the natural improveability of humanity, may be accelerated by the benevolent ingenuity of art. The true staple of every country is MAN, he may be exposed to the purer air of philosophy, or remain in the stagnant pool of corruption, he may be placed under the influence either of a LANCASTER or of a FORSTER.

X.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

SEVENTH REPORT FROM THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, IN IRELAND.

To his Grace, Charles Duke of Richmond and Lenox, &c. Lord Lieutenant, general, and general Governor of Ireland.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR GRACE,

WE the undersigned commissioners, appointed for inquiring into the several funds and revenues granted for the purposes of education, and into the state and condition of all schools upon public or charitable foundations in Ireland, beg leave to lay before your grace our report upon the Hibernian School in the Phoenix Park, for maintaining, educating, and apprenticing the orphans and children of soldiers in Ireland.

A petition, having been presented in the year 1769 to his present majesty, from the then lord primate, the archbishop of Dublin, the lord chancellor, with divers noblemen, bishops, judges, gentry, and clergy of the kingdom of Ireland, stating, "That upon the death of non-commissioned officers and private men in the army of said kingdom, and upon the removal of regiments, and of drafts from regiments to foreign service, great numbers of children had been left destitute of all means of subsistence; that a subscription had been set on foot in the year 1764, for raising a fund to support the establishment of an hospital, in order to preserve children left in such circumstances from poverty, beggary, and idleness; that the subscribers had received great encouragement from parliament and the public, and said petitioners praying, that his majesty would be graciously pleased, by letters patent under the great seal of the said kingdom of Ireland to incorporate said petitioners and other subscribers to said charitable institution," his majesty was graciously pleased to approve of said charitable institution, and being desirous that it should be conducted with such economy and regularity as might render

is a lasting benefit to the said military service of the kingdom of Ireland, did by letters patent, bearing date the 15th day of July 1769, incorporate said society by the name of "The Hibernian Society in Dublin, for maintaining, educating, and apprenticing the orphans and children of soldiers in Ireland for ever," together with the other powers necessary for the ends of their incorporation. This charter grants a common seal to the society, with powers to purchase, receive, and enjoy in perpetuity, lands, tenements, &c. not exceeding the amount of two thousand pounds per annum; to receive donations, and therewith to erect, maintain, and support in all places of the said kingdom, where they shall judge the same most necessary and convenient, such hospitals as they should think proper.

In order more effectually to promote the ends of the institution, his majesty was graciously pleased to grant a new charter to the society, bearing date the 6th of February, 1808, by which they are empowered to place in the regular army, as private soldiers, in such corps as from time to time his majesty shall please to appoint (but with their own free consent) the orphans and children of soldiers in Ireland for ever. By this charter also, the members of the corporation, formerly elective, are in future to be appointed by his majesty, or the lord lieutenant, or other chief governor or governors of Ireland for the time being; and the president and vice president, who were also heretofore elective, are to be always the lord lieutenant, and commander in chief of the forces, or, in his absence, the general officer commanding the troops in Ireland.

The Hibernian school, to which a farm of about nineteen acres is attached, stands in the south western angle of his majesty's Phoenix Park, about two English miles from the nearest part of the city, and nearly three from the castle of Dublin. The situation, which is elevated, commands an extensive and cheerful view over a rich and variegated tract of country, terminating in the Dublin and Wicklow mountains, and is in every respect

salubrious, with the exception of its being unhappily destitute of that prime necessary of life, good water. Efforts have been made to remedy so serious an evil by a forcing pump, but after sinking to a considerable depth, the water produced has been found fit for culinary purposes only; and a considerable quantity, for drinking, washing, and other uses, still continues to be drawn up a steep ascent from the river Liffey with considerable toil and expense. Perennial springs, however, have been discovered in the Phoenix Park, from whence a plentiful supply of excellent water may be conducted to the institution by metal pipes, at an expense of about one thousand pounds, and a plan for this purpose has been submitted to the governors.

The foundation of the school was laid during the administration of lord Townshend, on the 31st of October 1766, and it was opened in 1767. Since that period the number of children has gradually increased to four hundred and fifty, the present establishment, of whom one hundred and fifty are females; a considerable augmentation however is in contemplation, and the extensive buildings already added, with others rapidly advancing, will render this school (which is to be assimilated as nearly as possible to the Chelsea Asylum) an institution of great national interest and importance. It consists of a centre one hundred and thirty-eight feet, by forty eight, connected by subordinate buildings to large projecting wings, eighty-four feet by fifty each, forming a front of three hundred feet, three stories high, and of plain substantial masonry. The center contains the boys' schools, a dining hall and dormitories, and at present the apartments of the chaplain, and adjutant, and steward; but as the eastern wing, now nearly finished, will contain commodious apartments for these officers, and also for the commandant, the rooms which they now occupy will be converted into an additional school-room, and dormitories for boys.

The present dining-hall, sixty-six feet by twenty, is barely sufficient for the present establishment; but the foundations of a spacious dining-hall, one hundred feet by forty, and thirty

two feet high, and sufficient to accommodate eight hundred children, have been laid at the rear of the boys' schools, with which it will communicate by covered corridors, one hundred and sixty feet long, by ten wide, in which the boys may play and parade in wet weather; when this is finished, the present dining-hall will be converted into a school-room, and thus in the new arrangement there will be two school-rooms for boys, each sixty six feet by twenty, and thirteen feet high, to which it is proposed to add a third of dimensions not inferior, taken from the present apartments of the officers; it is intended, as has been stated to us, that these school rooms shall be sufficiently spacious for the accommodation of six hundred children, but it would perhaps be advisable to subdivide them, as the noise occasioned by two hundred children reciting their lessons at once in the same room, must be very distressing to the teachers; this circumstance has in the foundling hospital been judiciously attended to, where the schools do not exceed in dimensions forty feet by twenty, and the children instructed in each, seldom exceed seventy. The boys' dormitories, on the second floor, are very fine, they are over the school rooms and of similar dimensions, and as they communicate by an open arch-way in the center, they may be considered as one spacious apartment, one hundred and thirty-three feet long, by twenty wide, and thirteen feet high; as the windows, which are sufficiently numerous, face the north, these dormitories enjoy but little of the sun, yet in consequence of having a window at each end, they have thorough air, and seem perfectly free from damp; over these on the third floor are dormitories perfectly similar, and all these, with one of smaller dimensions on this floor, which is thirty-four by twenty-four feet, are well lighted, well ventilated, and kept perfectly neat and clean; the beds, however, one hundred and forty-nine in number, are in contact without any space whatever between them; a circumstance not perhaps favourable to health, and certainly productive of inconvenience

in making the beds, and cleansing the rooms; in each of these five dormitories an assistant sleeps to preserve order.

The western wing, already finished, is exclusively appropriated to the female children, one hundred and fifty in number, who are thus judiciously detached from the other parts of the establishment, having their own appropriate play ground; this wing contains, exclusive of a spacious staircase, a school-room forty-two feet by twenty-one, a dining-hall thirty-seven feet by twenty-one, with a wash-house and landry, forty-six feet by seventeen, all on the ground floor; over the school-room and dining hall, on the second and third floor, are dormitories of similar dimensions, containing eighty-one beds, and over the landry are two as yet unappropriated rooms, forty-six by seventeen each; all these are spacious, airy, and lightsome, and are perfectly neat and clean; the beds here, however, as in the boys' dormitories, are in contact; in this wing there are also convenient apartments for two school-mistresses, contiguous to the dormitories.

The kitchen, bread-room, and other necessary stores, judiciously placed between the male and female parts of the institution, to which they are well connected, are spacious and convenient; apertures near the ceiling of the kitchen to emit the steam, which is occasionally excessive, would be an improvement.

The wings of the building, and the other additions are erected in a manner much to the credit of the architect, Mr. Johnson; the roof however of the original central building is so steep, and the slates so small, that it requires perpetual repair, and in stormy weather is dangerous, a circumstance which will no doubt be attended to, and remedied.

To the eastward of the dining hall, in an airy situation and perfectly detached, an infirmary is to be erected of dimensions proportionate to the number of the children to which it is proposed to augment the establishment: the two apartments used at present as infirmaries, thirty four by sixteen each, are not sufficiently ventilated for the purpose to which they are assigned, they are disproportioned

to the extent of the institution; and the fever-ward, though a well ventilated apartment thirty-three feet by twenty-three, is accessible only through the convalescent room; but these temporary inconveniencies will of course terminate when the intended infirmary is finished, when these apartments will no doubt be applied to the enlargement of the foundation.

The chapel, about one hundred and eighty yards to the northward of the new dining-hall, from which it is separated by the garden, is neat and convenient, but not being sufficiently spacious to accommodate the number of children to which it is proposed to augment the establishment, it will probably be found necessary to enlarge it.

From the platform in front of the Hibernian school, the ground rapidly descends to the boundary wall and offices; the latter buildings, which at present greatly disfigure the general appearance of this fine institution, are to be taken down and rebuilt in the intended farm-yard; and this space, when properly dressed and brought as near to a level as local circumstances will admit, will form a noble area, in which the boys may play, and perform their military evolutions.

The farm attached to the school being entirely under cultivation, the cows necessary to supply milk, and generally thirty in number, are pastured in the Phoenix Park without any charge to the institution.

The children admissible into this school must be between the ages of seven and twelve years, and the children of non-commissioned officers or soldiers of the line, in actual service, or of soldiers deceased, or reduced, or removed to foreign service; they are admitted on the certificate of some commissioned officer, or other creditable person, and in the selection preference is given first, to orphans; secondly, to those whose fathers have been killed or have died on foreign service; thirdly, to those who have lost their mothers, and whose fathers are absent on foreign duty abroad; fourthly, to those whose fathers are ordered on foreign service, or whose parents have other children to maintain; and it is required that parents or friends, applying for admission of children, shall sign their consent to their re-

maining in the school so long as the governors may think fit, and to their being disposed of at a proper age, at their discretion as apprentices or servants, or, if boys, to their being placed, with their own free consent, as private soldiers in the regular army; in cases however of peculiar distress, children under the age of seven years are received, and there are at present a few of that description in the schools.

The number of children at present on the establishment, and to which the accommodations are fully competent, are, as already mentioned, four hundred and fifty, of whom three hundred are boys, and one hundred and fifty girls. On the 5th of January 1799, the children in the schools were in number two hundred and two, since which period to the 5th of January 1809 (a space of about ten years) nine hundred and sixty-four have been admitted, making a total of eleven hundred and sixty-six; of these four hundred and forty-eight were in the schools on the 5th of January 1809, four hundred and thirty-eight have been apprenticed, two hundred and sixteen returned to parents, twenty-three given to the army, six boys ran away, and thirty-five only died. The annual average number of children being three hundred and twenty-seven, this mortality, amounting only to three and five-tenths or little more than one in a hundred, must appear very inconsiderable, and is the best evidence of the salubrity of the situation, and the care taken of the children. The dietary which is given in the appendix is judicious, and the articles of food appeared to one of the members of our board, who went to inspect this establishment, to be not only excellent in quality, but in quantity abundant, though not profuse. The children appear, with very few exceptions, to be healthy, active and cheerful, and singularly free from scrofulous complaints, there being at present but four who appear to be afflicted with that complaint, which has of late years become so common in most of our charity schools notwithstanding the pains taken to exclude it; of the three hundred boys at present in the schools, fifty of the youngest are under the care of a mistress, a female being considered as more competent to manage children.

of so tender an age; the remainder are divided into five nearly equal portions, distributed among the same number of masters, each of whom having his division previously subdivided into convenient classes, with a monitor over each, instructs the boys in spelling with explanation, reading, writing, and arithmetic, and catechisms suitable to the age and capacity of each boy; the chaplain, who is constantly in one or other of the schools, besides examining from time to time the progress made by the boys under each master respectively in the different branches of education, has a class consisting of about thirty boys, composed of detachments from each school, which he lectures in the holy scriptures. The boys are kept alternately at labour and instruction; two classes of the stronger boys, about sixty in number, are employed in learning the trades of tailoring, and shoe-making, but attend the schools for instruction one hour and a half during the early part of each day; the same number, and of a similar description, attended alternately to instruction and agriculture, that most healthful and useful of all employments, three days in the week being alternately assigned to each in the last year; twenty-eight of them, with the assistance of a gardener and two labourers, cultivated nineteen acres under garden and farm, which produced not only an abundant supply of potatoes, cabbage, turnips, and other vegetables for the use of the schools, and valued at four hundred and eighty-six pounds ten shillings, but a surplus for sale, which, including young trees, produced two hundred and sixteen pounds seven shillings and three pence in the same year; the expense of cultivation was one hundred and fifty-three pounds six shillings and eleven pence, which, as the farm is rent-free, leaves a clear profit in its favour of five hundred and forty-nine pounds ten shillings and two pence halfpenny, or twenty eight pounds eighteen shillings and five pence per acre; and this profit, exceeding that of the preceding year by fifty-nine pounds six shillings and three pence, appears to be in a progressive state.

While these boys are employed in preparing the ground for crops, in planting cabbages and potatoes, and ploughing out the latter, their labour may be estimated at sixpence per day each on an average; at other seasons they are employed at hoeing, weeding, &c. which are of little value, save in their tendency to promote good health. The boys employed as shoemakers not having as yet attained to any considerable degree of proficiency in their trade, the average value of their labour cannot be estimated at more than twenty-pence per week each, and the same may be affirmed of the boys employed as tailors.

The course of instruction for the female children is similar to that of the boys, except that a part of their time is necessarily employed in works suitable to their sex; they are taught to make their own clothes, and to knit and mend stockings for themselves and the boys, they make up all the linen for the institution, and assist in doing the house business: thus the advantage of these various occupations must appear in a favourable point of view, when we consider, that the saving produced to the institution in the articles of provisions and clothing by the children's labour is not inconsiderable, and that the instruction and improvement acquired in these several trades and manufactures must render them useful, and of course desirable apprentices.

The expence of clothing a boy is estimated at two pounds sixteen shillings and one penny, of a girl at two pounds nineteen shillings and one penny, and the diet of a boy or girl at seven pounds four shillings and seven pence each; the children are apprenticed at the age of fourteen and upwards, the males to tailors, shoemakers, weavers, smiths, and as servants, &c. the females to mantuamakers, glovers, ribband weavers, and milliners, &c. as servants, &c. the children apprenticed to trades receive no bounty, those given as servants receive from their master or mistress a bounty of five pounds at the expiration of their apprenticeships.

The Officers of the Institution, with their respective salaries, are, a commandant, three hundred pounds per

anum, a chaplain, who is inspector of education one hundred and fifty pounds, adjutant and steward one hundred and eighty two pounds ten shillings, a surgeon one hundred pounds, a secretary eighty pounds, and an acting treasurer eighty pounds; the three last, who are not resident in the house, have no other allowance; the former, exclusively of their apartments, have a sufficient allowance of coals, candles, soap and vegetables.

The instruction of the children is committed, under the direction of the chaplain, to a serjeant-major of instruction, with six serjeant assistants, and to a matron, with three school mistresses; a serjeant master taylor, a serjeant master shoemaker, and a serjeant master gardner instruct such boys as are selected for that purpose in their respective trades; for the salaries and allowance of these, and also of the servants belonging to the institution we refer to Appendix, No. 7.

A new arrangement of the officers and servants of the institution took place on 5th of January last, when their number was increased, and the amount of their salaries augmented from one thousand and nineteen pounds one shilling and sixpence; to sixteen hundred and fifty-six pounds sixteen shillings and four pence, with proportional allowances; their emoluments are certainly liberal though not profuse, none appear to be superfluous, and from the order, regularity, neatness, and cleanliness that pervade every part of the establishment, it is obvious that they perform their respective duties.

The following is a Statement of the present income of the Society.

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Interest of £2,900, five per cent. government Debentures | l. s. d. |
| Molety of the Carlou estate, left by the late Henry Waddle, esq. to the Hibernian and Marine Societies in equal moleties | 145 — — |
| Interest at three per cent. on £3,000, the bequest of the late Mrs. Wolfe of England; this was subject to certain annuities, but the annuitants being now dead, it will be handed over to the Institution; the interest being subject to the English income tax of 10 per cent. produces only | 15 2 10h |
| Profit of the farm, which is rent free, deducting expence of cultivation | 81 — — |
| Church collections, in a declining state, produced last year | 549 10 2h |
| Calves and dry cows sold last year | 14 6 1h |
| Bequests, donations, and subscriptions on an average of the last eight years, produced annually | 74 19 8 |
| | 214 11 9h |

Total £1,094 10 8

To the above we must add parliamentary grants, which in the last eight years have gradually increased from four thousand three hundred and forty-one pounds four shillings, to fourteen thousand five hundred and eight pounds three shillings and eleven pence half-penny nett. The following table, formed from materials supplied by the governors, exhibits a general view of the funds whether fixed or casual, with the expenditure for each of the last eight years, and as the sums latterly expended on additional buildings have been very considerable, these are particularly specified.

From the annexed table it appears, that the average annual expense of one child has, in consequence of the rise in the price of the necessaries of life, gradually risen in the last eight years from nine pounds eighteen shillings and fourpence to fifteen pounds fifteen shillings and tenpence three farthings; and that the average for the eight years is thirteen pounds seven shillings and three pence: as, however the new arrangement in the officers and servants of the institution has caused an additional expence in salaries of six hundred and thirty-seven pounds fourteen shillings and ten pence, exclusive of increased allowances, the average expence of one child will probably in future exceed eighteen pounds per annum; and it may be necessary to observe, that potatoes and other vegetables produced by the farm, and valued last year at four hundred and eighty-six pounds ten shillings, and milk supplied from cows pastured *gratis* in the Phoenix Park, are not included in this estimate.

It appears also, that in the same period the income of the society exceeded the expenditure by the sum of seven thousand nine hundred and thirty-five pounds two pence farthing, of which sum six thousand eight hundred and fifty pounds fourteen shillings and ten pence appeared to be in the bank of the right honourable David Latouche and company (who act gratuitously as treasurers) on the 5th of January 1809; a circumstance which indicates the prudent economy of the governors.

TABLE REFERRED TO.

| In Years ending Jan. 5th. | Parliamentary Grant. | Casual Income. | Total Income. | Expended on repairs and Buildings. | Expended in support of Institution. | Total Expenditure. | Average Number of Children each year | Average Expense of one Child per Annum, Buildings not included. |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|--|---|------------------------|--|--|
| | | | | | | | | |
| 1802 | £. s. d. 4,341 4 — | £. s. d. 264 12 9 | £. s. d. 4,605 16 9 | £. s. d. 126 18 10 | £. s. d. 2,975 4. 2½ | £. s. d. 3,102 3 —½ | 300 | £. s. d. 9 18 4 |
| 1803 | 4,365 — — | 535 12 — | 4,900 12 — | 972 17 6 | 3,368 10 5 | 4,541 7 11 | 300 | 11 17 11 |
| 1804 | 4,365 — — | 158 1 6 | 4,523 1 6 | 821 13 4 | 4,319 16 9 | 5,161 10 1 | 300 | 14 19 4 |
| 1805 | 4,365 — — | 56 12 5 | 4,930 12 5 | 959 19 6½ | 3,308 12 8½ | 4,468 12 3 | 304 | 11 10 10 |
| 1806 | 5,919 — — | 256 14 3½ | 6,205 14 3½ | 2,085 2 2 | 4,634 9 4 | 6,749 11 6 | 344 | 13 10 7½ |
| 1807 | 7,963 3 34 | 1,093 — 3 | 9,056 3 6½ | 1,739 9 2 | 5,537 8 6 | 7,476 17 8 | 390 | 14 14 24 |
| 1808 | 11,276 3 2 | 2,860 19 — | 14,137 2 2 | 12,745 14 — | 5,731 6 7 | 10,680 4 1 | 381 | 15 — 16½ |
| 1809 | 14,308 3 11½ | 531 3 5½ | 15,039 7 5 | 6,365 1 5½ | 6,918 1 11 | 13,283 3 4½ | 438 | 15 15 10½ |
| 1810 | 17,132 14 5 | 6,965 15 8 | 23,398 10 1 | 15,826 15 11½ | 17,453 10 5 | 33,463 9 10½ | Average of 8 Years. | 15 7 3 |

* In this year there was a further sum of £2,203. 3s. 6d. expended in purchasing Government Debentures for the purposes of the Institution.

In consequence of the existing and probable future state of Europe, a respectable standing army has become necessary to these islands, and it appears desirable that every reasonable inducement should be held out to the boys of this and similar institutions to volunteer into the troops of the line; this is a favourable idea with the present governors, whose arrangements are obviously calculated to impress martial ideas, and inspire an early taste for a military life; the officers, masters, and assistants are distinguished by military appellations; the classes are called companies, are regularly drilled, perform all their evolutions by beat of drum, and are judiciously encouraged by the commandant in running, leaping, and such other exercises as produce agility of body and firmness of nerves. It must be observed, however, that though in the ten last years three hundred and seventy boys were apprenticed, twenty three only were disposed of in this desirable manner; but this perhaps is to be imputed not so much to a disinclination to this line of life, as to a defect in the former charter, to the framers of which this idea did not occur; this defect however has in the last charter been obviated, the governors are now empowered to place such boys as voluntarily prefer the service, in the troops of the line, where they are entitled to the bounty allowed to volunteers by his Majesty's regulations; the education which they receive here must have a tendency to render them competent to fill the stations of petty officers in the army, and might it not be judicious to hold out to them a hope of preferment to such stations at a proper age, as an additional stimulus.

The expediency however of this change in the system of the establishment has been questioned by many, and it must be acknowledged, that the parents of these children, where such exist, almost universally prefer their being apprenticed to some trade, that may enable them to acquire a future maintenance, to the life of a soldier; it has been asserted also, that under the former system, the end for which the governors are so anxious had been in a

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great measure attained, as nearly three-fourths of those who had received their education here, finally enlisted in the troops of the line, bringing with them the useful trades of which they had previously acquired a knowledge, and thus supplying the army with tailors, shoemakers, &c. However this may be, it is certain that the present rule of selecting ushers for this institution from persons who had served in the army, although favourable to the idea of introducing order and discipline among the boys, may, unless the selection is made with great care, be productive of the worst consequences in a point of much greater importance, their moral and religious instruction. This precaution has unfortunately not been attended to, and of the five assistant ushers at present in the schools, three who have been in the army, though competent to teach reading, writing and arithmetic, appeared on examination to be totally ignorant of the simplest principles of the christian religion; much may indeed be expected from the zeal and energy of the chaplain, who is also superintendent of education, but it is obvious that no possible exertion on his part can remedy the consequences of so deplorable a deficiency in his assistants, where the number to be instructed is so considerable: and it is, we may presume, from a conviction of this truth that the governors have in the last appointment of an usher departed from their usual rule*, and thus procured a person competent to discharge every part of his duty.

In decency of manners and regularity of conduct, the children of the Hibernian School are not inferior to those in any of our public institutions, while in the appearance of health and vigour, they seem to possess a decided superiority; this is obviously the result of much care and attention in the conductors of this charity, who, no doubt, will evince an equal anxiety for the mental improvement of

*The last usher appointed (John Charles) was procured from the founding hospital, where he had filled the same department with great ability for some years, under the direction of the Reverend Mr. Murray.

the objects of their care, by removing whatever may be considered as a serious obstruction to the superintendent of education in discharge of the very important trust reposed in him.

The emulation excited in the various charitable seminaries in this city and its vicinity, which are in the habit of sending their children to the annual catechetical examinations established by "the society for discountenancing vice and promoting the knowledge and practice of the christian religion," has been productive of the most happy consequences; and it is, to be lamented that any of our charitable institutions should decline to participate in an advantage, the value of which has been so decidedly ascertained by the experience of fifteen successive years. The answering at these examinations is, to every person anxious for the diffusion of religious knowledge among the children of the poor, truly interesting; the emulation, not only among the children, but among the masters, mistresses, and assistants, who feel themselves deeply interested for the credit of their respective establishments, has produced a general progressive improvement, and we trust, that so respectable an institution as the Hibernian School will not, by declining such a trial, leave room for a suspicion of conscious inferiority.

Council Chamber, Dublin Castle,

September 21st. 1809.

(Signed)

| | |
|-----------------------|---------|
| WM. ARMAOH. | (L. S.) |
| Geo. HALL, Provost, | (L. S.) |
| JAS. VERSCHOYLE | (L. S.) |
| Dean of St. Patrick's | (L. S.) |
| WILLIAM DISNEY | (L. S.) |
| RICHD. L. EDGEWORTH | (L. S.) |

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

HAVING formerly offered some observations respecting the management of bees, I shall now take the liberty of making some additional remarks on that subject.

The season is now come, when the proprietor of the bees is to receive from his apiary, part of the produce of the spring and summer; and here, two subjects of consideration present themselves to view. First, in what manner are the bees to be robbed of their wax and honey? And second, which is

the best time for doing so? The usual mode adopted in this country, for accomplishing the first object, is to destroy the bees, by the fumes of burning sulphur. Besides the cruelty which there seems to be, in destroying those industrious and generous insects, in order to reap the fruit of their labours, the impolicy of it argues strongly against the practice. Would it not be for the interest of the proprietor, to save his bees, in order that his stock might increase from year to year? and with this view, should he not endeavour to find out some expedient for saving the bees, at the same time that he might possess himself of part of their store?

Mr. Wildman directs that after a swarm has been put into one of his straw skeps, (which are not made of a conical shape, as is usual at present, but cylindrical, that one skep may just fit another, and may rest on it, when required) another of the same size shall be put over it, that the bees may have sufficient room to work. If necessary, a third may be added, that the bees may have every encouragement to collect an abundant stock. After the working season is over, Mr. Wildman directs that the upper skep, which the bees will have filled with wax and honey, be taken away, they having retired into the skep below, where they resolve taking up their residence for the winter. They will thus be confined to a comparatively small space, which is most suitable for them, during the winter season. But care must be taken, to observe, from time to time, in what state they are from cold, or from scarcity of provisions, in the early part of spring, when the changing season calls forth their energies, and again invites them to the fields. For they should be rather plentifully supplied than otherwise, as they will thus be more forward in spring and ultimately yield a greater increase.

A friend of mine proposes to adopt a plan in some respects similar to the above. He has constructed a large case of deals sufficient to contain eight or ten hives. This opens with folding doors from behind, and is raised to about a foot and a half from the ground. Having received a swarm in

a skep of the common construction, he places it in the wooden case above described, and forms a passage for the bees from the skep to without, by the front, not allowing them to pass in any other direction. When the bees have pretty well filled the skep with combs and honey, he takes a box, which is nearly square, and somewhat larger in the upper surface than the bottom of the skep, and places it under the skep. In the upper part of the box there is a square aperture for the purpose of forming a communication between the skep and box, which can be stopped at pleasure, by means of a sliding bar. Having received this increase of space, the colony will double their diligence in increasing their magazine of provision, and if the season prove favourable, will soon have the straw skep completely stowed with wax and honey. If thought adviseable, the sliding bar may then be pushed in, and the skep removed. It is to be presumed that the bees will now be wholly or principally in the box. If it be apprehended that some are still above, these may be destroyed in the ordinary way by the fumes of sulphur. It may not however be adviseable to take any part of their stock the first year, since in this climate, it rarely happens, that even a strong hive can fill a moderately sized skep in one season. At the end of the second season, the bees will have collected a larger store, and there will then be less danger of being put to the necessity of destroying, as above, many members of the colony, and less trouble in saving them during the winter.

By the above mode, my friend proposes to prevent the bees from swarming, which occasions an increase of trouble and expense, to reap a greater produce from them, and to save the bees of these interesting, and useful insects. How far he may succeed, I cannot at present say, as the plan has not yet been fully tried. I may hereafter communicate the result of his experiments on these subjects.

I shall conclude this paper by remarking, that I apprehend proprietors are in general too late in putting down their bees. Even so early as this day

(11th September) I observe, that the bees especially of the strong hives are scarcely stirring, though the sun be shining, and the weather moderately warm. They must of course have already begun to consume their stock, and, at any rate, it cannot be expected that they will now make any addition to it. I see a few bees working on a bed of mignonette, but the quantity of honey now collected must be so small, that I conceive those who have bees should immediately take those hives which they intend for use. In those years in which the latter part of the season is uncommonly favourable, it may be proper to let the hives remain till after the beginning of October; but I believe, in general, hives should be put down towards the middle of September. A. Z.

P.S. I would gladly learn from some of your correspondents, what the nature of that substance is which wasps collect in their combs, and whether or not it could be applied to any use?

To the Editor of the Belfast Magazine.

SIR,
HAVING in vain, sought for some account of the discovery of potatoe oats, from those of my friends who were to be supposed best acquainted with the subject, I take the liberty, through your magazine, to inquire of some of your informed correspondents, whence this valuable species of oats has been derived, and from what circumstance it is that it obtains its name? It is natural for agriculturalists to wish to know some particulars of this excellent species of grain. A. Z.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

SKETCH OF A RAMBLE,
Taken September, 1809.

EARLY on a beautiful morning of last September, I set out from Carrickfergus, to visit an acquaintance in the eastern part of Island Magee. The morning possessed all the charms of the season; the sun had nearly made his appearance, and his bright slanting rays reflected from the unruffled surface of the bay a dazzling light,

which when caught by the sails of some vessels entering the bay on particular tacks, had a very pleasing effect. I also observed the swallows beginning to congregate on the tops of several houses, preparatory to their general flight, which always happens soon after this appearance. Leaving the town, the road passes through a tract of excellent land, which now glowing with the rich fruits of cultivation, set it off to great advantage, some corn was in the stook, and the whole fully

“Invited the sickle from its twelvemonth’s rest.”

The road here formerly passed close along the shore, but the sea had encroached so much of late years, as rendered it oft impassible, which caused the present one to be made. After walking about a mile from the town, I crossed the Copeland water, a small rivulet, which is here the meaning of the corporation; the road here enters the parish of Killroot, antiently, Kill-reoigh, the red church, the land on the left belongs to the Bishop of Down and Connor, and on the right to C.R. Dobbs, esq. This parish is united, in the established church, to that of Ballynure, its ancient church has been long in ruins, and the inhabitants lament the tythe did not share the same fate; the celebrated Dean Swift, was sometime prevend of this place. Continuing my journey, I soon reached Castle Dobbs, the elegant seat of C.R. Dobbs, esq. whose mansion stands a little to the left, and is seen to great advantage from the road; the demesne is well wooded with clumps and belts of trees, from amongst which thousands of rooks were now taking their departure, with a most clamorous noise, to renew their depredations on the neighbouring fields: Pheasants and the stock dove are also plenty within the demesne. The crops as I passed along, exhibited a fine appearance, the corn seemed to have suffered but little from the heavy rains that had fallen lately, as I seldom saw any lodged; the hawthorn hedges I observed beginning to lose their vivid green; and assuming that brownness which marks the rapid decay of all their foliage, and reminds us that soon,

“———The leaf

“Incessant will rustle from the mournful grove.”

I now came in sight of Island Magee, and there being very little wood to obstruct the prospect, I had a delightful coup d’oeil of the western side of that peninsula, which now glittered with the yellow tints of autumn; its little knolls forming a fine undulative appearance, while here and there the bluish smoke from the morning fire of the houses curled high in the air, and pointed out the different habitations, as,

“I roved with devious step, and heard the rill

“That murmured sweet, and listened to the gale.”

Crossing a small rivulet called Slaughter-ford, I entered the island; this stream takes its name from the dreadful massacre that began here on the night of Saturday, January 8th, 1642, concerning this event, historians have given very dissimilar relations, as to the cause, and number of sufferers, yet they generally agree in saying they were inoffensive and untainted by rebellion; the person really impartial will therefore deplore the event, let the numbers have been 30 or 300 persons, for there is all this difference in the accounts. I now passed Mulder-slay, the chief of hills in this part, whose steep sides were mostly covered with corn bowing for the sickle, industry having climbed to near its summit, and exhibiting an excellent specimen of the state of agriculture, in this district, which is much improved within the last thirty years, as the reader will see by the following authentic anecdote. In 1779, the landlord Lord Dungannon, reduced the price of lime, to his tenantry, at sixpence per barrel; and at the same time proposed to lime the land of such as were not then able to do themselves; and take payment for the same as they were able to spare it but strange to tell, very few embraced the offer, and the lime, mostly, continued fermenting in the kilns till burst the walls asunder! Times are now altered, and this valuable food is in general use as a manure, without any encouragement from the landlord. The morning continuing fine,

clarms were yet further heightened by the notes of the wood-lark, which I now first heard beginning his autumnal song, he seemed really "blithe to salute the sunny smile of morn," and I listened with much attention to his song, till I arrived at an ancient church, by the road, which I stepped aside to examine. "Hail! solitary ruins," I inwardly exclaimed as I ascended the steps leading into the graveyard, in which this ruin is situated; I advanced, and entering its white incrustated walls, sat down on a headstone, both to rest myself and take a more minute view of this very solitary ruin, whose venerable walls reminded me of the frailty incident to all sublunary things. The appearance of this cemetery testifies it to be of considerable antiquity, and the building, probably, one of the primitive churches built of lime and stone, as it is very small with gothic windows, which distinguished the early churches, of this country; the fabric is yielding fast to the iron hand of time," as I observed several fragments of its walls lying about the yard, once "the pious work

"Of names once fam'd, now dubious or forgot."

Having sat some time in rather a melancholy reverie, I arose and began to examine the inscriptions on the different headstones, but found none worth transmitting to the reader's notice, the name, age, and time of death, being all contained on those frail memorials; the one I had sat on, belonged to the Hills, one of the most ancient and respectable families in the island, (as) tradition says, the family of the hills saved several Roman Catholics, during the massacre of 1649, by secreting them in a corn kiln; an act highly honourable to them, and worthy of being recorded to those professing that religion whose divine author has said, "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy" Leaving this place where "The rude forefathers of the hamlet sleep," I redoubled my pace, and slanting to the right across the fields, reached a road leading direct to Port-muck, for which I steered with lengthening steps; my walk since leaving home had been

very solemn, and on this road it was still further increased by the few houses near it, and no passengers to be seen in any direction, therefore the silence of the morn was seldom disturbed by any thing save the rustling of the ripe corn, by the breeze, or the flight of sparrows from one field to another: I shall therefore present the reader with some account, not generally known of this island.

S. M. S.

To be Continued.

To the Editor of the Belfast Magazine,

I HAVE been an attentive observer of the different Essays which have lately appeared respecting the building of the School House, and establishing the Lancastrian mode of teaching in this town. I am sorry to find that there is not that unanimity amongst those Essayists which a true friend to the institution could wish.

A person signing himself C. S. has endeavoured to discourage any attempts being made towards teaching the poor children of this town, by representing them as the most incorrigible race, that ever disgraced humanity: this piece has been well answered by Humanitas. For these articles see Commercial Chronicle of 26th ult. and first and sixth instant.

But, Mr. Editor, a more dangerous enemy has been discovered than the *fanatic* C. S. after the close of the retrospect of politics in your magazine for September last, a writer has given something by way of appendix to that article. And though a dash appears to end the monthly retrospect of politics, yet it is plain, that this writer, by his introduction or head, wishes his paper should be considered the conclusion of it.

This writer like C. S. sets out with approving of "the laudable exertion to promote the benefit of education among the poorer classes;" but endeavours to deprive the managers of the confidence of the public, by bringing a charge of extravagance against them in unnecessarily squandering away the public money by building a magnificent house. "In viewing the building," he says, "now erecting for that purpose, it appears to be on too magnificent a scale; there ought to be every accomodation both in

size and ventilation, but no superfluity, no ornaments of cut stone, nor large windows more calculated for show than use;" and in another place mentioning J. Lancaster's school, he says, "in it there is no ostentatious display of architecture." By this it might appear to a person who had not seen the house, that it was really an extravagant building, perhaps decorated with porticoes, colonades, and other expensive ornaments in stone or sculpture, and in this case did not deserve the encouragement of a discerning public.

Mr. Editor, having seen in the *Bel-fast News Letter* two different essays recommending a larger house, and stating that if it was finished with one story, the common necessary convenience could not be had; my curiosity was excited to examine a building on which there was so much difference of opinion. But judge my surprise, when I found it to be a very plain building, with no ornaments of cut stone, and with windows of a very moderate size for so large a house, and no ostentatious display of architecture.

For the information of those who have not seen the house, I shall state its dimensions, and describe it as nearly as I can from the information I received on the subject.

It is situate 40 feet from the line of the street, below the level of which the ground it stands on, is about one foot. Observing a part of the street already raised, on further inquiry, I found that it is intended to raise the street opposite to the buildings about 18 inches. To give the house the proper elevation therefore, it became necessary to lay the base $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet above the bottom of the foundation, the managers have, in my mind, judiciously added, about 15 inches more to the walls, by which they have gained an excellent range of cellars (worth at least thirty pound per year) which may be entered by the rear, without incommoding the front of the building.

The house is a plain brick building, originally intended for two stories high, but it being apprehended that the funds would be rather scanty for building it so large, the managers

were resolved to finish it at one story. It appearing, however, to many well informed inhabitants, that the necessary conveniences could not be had, that it would be great waste of money to put so expensive a roof on a house one story high, that double the accommodation might be obtained for the addition of less than one half the expense; and the managers having received assurances from some liberal minded gentlemen, that they would exert themselves to raise the necessary sum for the object in view, they have been induced to abide by their original intention, that of building it two stories high, and only finishing the upper story this year.

It will be entered by a hall door in front, about four feet wide, hall twelve feet wide, at the end of which will rise a flight of stone steps, six feet long, to a landing about six feet above the floor of the hall; off each end of this landing will rise a flight of steps four feet long, at the top of which will be the doors for entering the school room. The stair case being built on the outside, the school-room will be an oblong of 97 feet, by $32\frac{1}{2}$ feet, without any obstruction therein.

The platform of the teacher is to be raised on the side opposite the entrance, about two feet above the floor, an acclivity of about one foot will be given, from the middle of the floor to both ends of the room, for the purpose of the better exposing the scholars to the view of the teacher.

On each side the hall door are left openings for five windows, in the rear for nine, and in the upper story there will be eleven windows in front, and the same in the rear. Windows $7\frac{1}{2}$ feet high, and $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet wide.

Under the stairs there will be two necessities to be entered from without, those being directly above the sewer which communicates with the main sewer in the street, may be kept clean by the water from the spouts round the house, being directed into them.

At the foot of the stairs there is one door on each side, which leads out to the rear ground.

The intention is, as soon as the funds are adequate thereto, to finish the lower story for the accommodation of females alone, it being considered

paper to have the boys and girls in separate apartments.

As to expensive ornament in stone work there is none, unless a plain stone door case, or stone coins, base and cornice, may be so called, so far from unnecessary expense in stone work being incurred, a degree of parsimony appears in that respect, as there are no stone coins for the rear corners, nor cornices for the back wall, both of which are necessary for a building, that if possible should never require any repairs, and it is well known that in houses detached from others, nothing falls sooner into decay than brick coins and cornices.

A house such as this Mr. Editor, should be built in the most substantial manner, and no material should be used in it which was not of the strongest, and most durable nature. Economy therefore, is greatly misapplied, and appears to be grossly misunderstood by our retrospective politician, in his supposing that building a house with stone coins and cornices was a breach of the rules of economy.

Such as I have described it, Mr. Editor, is this building, which it has been said by our essayist, is built on too magnificent a scale, such the building, which he has insinuated is ornamented with cut stone, and wherein is exhibited an ostentatious display of architecture, and such the building which has exhausted not only the funds, but the benevolence of the public.

Our politician insists "that no subscriptions can be expected from distant places, for there is no inducement to hold out to remote subscribers to interest them by selfish motives to contribute. Now this I deny, and say, the introduction of the Lancasterian plan of education into Belfast as the capital of the north of Ireland, has an indubitable claim on every town and parish in its neighbourhood, and for these reasons: By the system being established here, the other towns and parishes, will with more facility obtain the knowledge of its practicability. As the managers of the institution will be obliged to bring a person from London to set it on foot, a heavy expense will be incurred by them in the first instance.

And as the knowledge of managing a school of the kind, may be obtained in future by persons attending the one in Belfast, such as may establish them hereafter can have information at a comparatively small expense.

Mr. Editor, my motive in taking the trouble of replying to this article, is the pure and ardent wish I have for the success of a most valuable institution, which I am apprehensive may sustain injury by false impressions being made on the minds of those who are friendly to it, and to remove those impressions of grandeur and magnificence, inculcated by our politician, by showing to the public that the building is a plain one, and that there is nothing superfluous about it, so far from that I am perfectly convinced that were it finished with one story, the necessary convenience would not be had, and that it would cost the public twice the sum to procure those conveniences at a future day, that it will now cost by making the house two stories high.

I shall therefore conclude by breathing an ardent wish for the success of the undertaking, and relying on the good sense and liberality of the public, I have no doubt whatever that it will eventually succeed. I am, sir, yours, &c.

SOLON,

Belfast, 6th Oct. 1810.

To the Editor of the Belfast Magazine.

ON THE PAYMENT OF LABOURERS.

The best said he that I can you advise
Is to avoid the occasion of the ill,
For when the cause whence evil doth arise,
Removed is, the effect surceaseth still.

MR. EDITOR,

SPANCEE.

AT a time when the miseries of war, the non-intercourse of nations, and the consequent depression of trade bear heard on the laborious class of society, and render even the industrious man unable to meet with effect the exigencies of his family; at a time when the legislature has licensed the conversion of provisions into spirits; at a time in short when so many causes combine to encrease that mass of poverty and immorality we witness in this place, it is hoped that a proposal which would undoubtedly tend

to ameliorate the morals and condition of the poor will not be thought unnecessary.

That Belfast stands distinguished by the liberality and benevolence of its inhabitants, that incalculable benefit is derived from its many valuable institutions, and that all the wants of its poor class of people seem to be already provided for, are facts well known. For the lame, the blind and the infirm, that August fabric the Poor-House is open, for those labouring under the complex misfortune of poverty and disease the hospital is ready. That grand encourager of industry the workhouse promises, if supported, to add a lustre to the character of its spirited founders, and a poor school about to be established for the education of the rising generation, will it is expected do honour to the town. Can Belfast then do more, than support the aged and infirm, than feed and clothe the naked, than provide every necessary for the sick and useful learning for the children of the indigent? It is my opinion that it can, that it is possible and without much trouble or expense, in a great degree to prevent the bad habits of at least one half of the poor working people of this town, and that numbers who are now a burthen to society, may be rendered useful to themselves and beneficial to the community, and that incalculable advantages to their morals and means of subsistence may be derived from the proposal now to be submitted to the publick; this hope may appear too sanguine, but it is encouraged by the result of long reflection and useful observation.

Poverty, I mean abject poverty, like disease, is more easily prevented than removed, but like it, sometimes comes on in defiance to all human prudence and caution.

That class however whose indigence and immorality we can easily trace to their own conduct, bears a very large proportion to that, whose misery comes on in opposition to every honest and vigorous endeavour they can make; and it is equally notorious that the former description while they are by-far the more numerous, are at the same time more troublesome, more dangerous, more ungrateful, and harder to support than those who have not the

least contributed to their own misfortunes; but though this fact has been long felt by society in general, and by our valuable institutions in particular, yet any attempt to prevent its increase or even its existence for the future has as yet I believe been untried.

During my reflections on this subject, I observed minutely the different conduct of those who are the subject of the paper, and was often surprised to find that one family pined in pinching indigence, while another in its neighbourhood, of the same number with the same means of subsistence, and in the same employment, lived in comparative comfort, the case of this in most cases I found to be the same. I observed, and every one must have seen with regret, that it is on Saturday night in particular, we witness those scenes the relation of which would shock humanity. It is on *this night* and the *following day* that the public houses are filled with clamorous multitudes; on *this night* you meet hundreds reeling home to their abject families, or to worse places; on *this night* the streets are lined with phalanxes of licentious libertines, sleep interrupted by the oaths and shouts of midnight rioters, and all must remember, that almost every murder, every crime, and every abuse is perpetrated on *this night*. In my professional capacity I have often occasion to be up at every hour of the night, and of the truth of what I state I am sorry to be so well and so constantly convinced, for I can with certainty affirm that there is more vice and immorality practised on Saturday night and Sunday morning, and more paupers consequently left depending on society, than in all the other nights and days of a whole month.

Now from careful observation of these facts, I had no difficulty in tracing to their source and finding out the principal causes of those abuses which are equally destructive of the morals and the means of thousands; and I sincerely hope, by shewing these causes, to move those who have it in their power to remove them, and thus prevent their distressing effects from ensuing in future.

To them therefore I beg leave to address myself, and I trust I will not

accused of presumption when I assert, that most of these enormities flowing to that custom which unfortunately prevails, of paying the working class of people their weekly wages on *Saturday night*. For on that night the business of the week is ended, they have time for relaxation, they are allured by company and other uses to spend part of that money, which though expected and urgently required by an indigent family, is too often destroyed before the morning folly and dissipation, and Sunday, that ought to usher in sobriety and virtue, witnesses many an unfortunate wife and her children waiting in anxiety and want for the return of that being who ought to be their comfort and support, and who, when he comes, brings to their assistance neither reason, money, or any thing but abuse.

If, then, every employer would take this matter into consideration, I have no doubt but they would see the decided propriety of changing this custom. In place of which, I would recommend that all workers be paid their last week's wages on the *Monday morning following*, before they begin work, for which purpose they might necessarily assemble half an hour earlier that morning, or the time lost in paying them on Saturday night could make up for that spent in the same way on Monday. This could cause no loss to the employer, while it is plain that it would be productive of incalculable advantages to the families of the employed. If they are paid in the commencement of the week, and in the beginning of the day, they return home in the course, at nine o'clock, and give an account of their last week's earning while it is yet in being; they have not time to destroy it and their morals as usual, and if even inclined, they dare not break on their week's work in the evening; the clothes and necessaries which were pawned after the last deduction will be released, the poor family will enjoy together in comfort the fruits of its industry, hundreds of wretched people who are this moment

depending on the benevolence of the charitable, will be assisted by their children, who have not time to squander their pay as usual after it is got; and what in itself imperiously demands this change, is, that *Sunday* must undoubtedly be better observed, because the money which contributed so much to its abuse before, has been expended for better purposes during the week.

And thus lives and morals will be preserved, the poor will live in comparative comfort, they will begin to taste the sweets of regularity and religion, and will in a short time do from inclination what it is now necessary to make them do from necessity. On Sunday they cannot drink and revel, because it precedes *pay day*, whereas it used to succeed it; their work during the week must be better executed after being sober, and vast sums of money will be annually saved to individuals, and to all the institutions of the town.

I trust then sincerely and expect for the sake of morality, virtue, and charity, that no consideration shall prevent the adoption of this proposal, which no motive in the world but what is expected from it could dictate, and that is, its evident utility to all classes of men, but particularly the poor; I considered it long, and mentioned it lately to a gentleman equally distinguished for sense and humanity, who employs a great number of workmen; he saw the benefit that might be derived from the change, and was happy to be the first to put it into practice. May the other gentlemen of this place, already distinguished for their philanthropy and benevolence, follow the example, and afford to thousands of suffering fellow creatures, that comfort of body and mind which I earnestly conceive will result from a measure so necessary and so practicable as this.

*Nil actum reputans, si quid superesset
agendum. Lpc.*

Belfast,

M.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF DISTINGUISHED PERSONS.

An account of the Rev. George Walker, late professor of Theology at the New College, and President of the Philosophical and Literary Society, Manchester; extracted from a memorial of his life, written by his son.

GEORGE WALKER was born about the year 1735, at Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

Though his father's circumstances must have sensibly felt the expenses of a numerous family, yet at no period does this appear to have operated to our author's prejudice, by depriving him of any of those advantages necessary to qualify him for the exercise of a profession, to which he appears to have been early destined. He received the rudiments of his education at the grammar-school of Newcastle, then under the care of the Rev. Dr. Moises, a clergyman of the church of England, but a man of great liberality of sentiment, and who had deservedly acquired a very high reputation for the rapid progress of his scholars.

In this situation he gave early indications of a distinguished character. Before he had attained the age of five, he had made so considerable a proficiency in the Latin language, that he was deemed fully competent to enter upon Cæsar's commentaries. This rapidity of attainment, the consequence of a superior capacity united to a more than ordinary share of application, was not accompanied, as is usually the case, with that gravity of temper and conduct, that seems to forbid a participation in the sports and exercises congenial to the period of youth: on the contrary, he possessed all the characteristic cheerfulness of a boy, and entered with more than common ardour into the juvenile amusements of his school fellows. For his rapid progress in school learning he was no doubt greatly indebted to the judicious care and attention of his master, who appears early to have distinguished him from the rest of his pupils, and to have bestowed upon him a more than ordinary share of attention.

Under the care of this excellent

man he continued till the age of ten when he was sent to Durham, in order to be placed under the immediate direction of his uncle, the Rev. Thomas Walker, minister of the dissenting congregation at that place, a gentleman of considerable eminence in his profession, but who, from the freedom of his speculative opinions, seems to have been considered by some of his contemporary ministers as entertaining unsound and heterodox tenets. The presbyterians had not yet altogether emancipated themselves from the errors and religious prejudices, which in former times had so strongly marked the character of their sect; and many of those controverted points, the truth of which cannot be clearly established upon any express revelation of scripture, but which had been formerly considered as essential articles of faith, were still in some measure regarded as the necessary terms of admission to a ministerial communion. That simple and rational conception of christianity, which admits of nothing as essential to the office of a christian minister, but a belief in its divine origin, and a practical adherence to its precepts, and which regards all other disputed doctrines as the speculations of fallible men, as mere human inventions altogether foreign to its genuine meaning and simplicity, had not yet superseded the use of those particular creeds and confessions of faith, which were deemed to contain whatever was sound and orthodox in christian belief. From the influence of these contracted notions of religion he was happily freed in having his education intrusted to the care of his uncle, who impressed no bias on his mind in favour of any particular tenets, but left it wholly free to adopt those opinions which should be the result of a rational, manly, and impartial inquiry.

In this situation he was particularly fortunate; for, independently of the advantage that he derived from the constant superintendence of his uncle, he was regularly sent to the grammar-school of that town, then in the highest celebrity as a place of classical edu-

ation. Mr. Dongworth, the head master of this seminary, was a person of extraordinary endowments, and possessed of every natural and acquired talent, that could conciliate affection, or command respect. Though exacting at all times the greatest deference to his authority, yet his system was rather to conciliate by a kind and liberal treatment, than to awe into submission by the terrors of magisterial severity. But the highest panegyric that can be passed upon his character is the universal esteem and veneration in which he was held by his scholars. No time could efface from the mind of Mr. Walker a sense of his numerous excellencies, and to the latest period of his life he uniformly dwelt upon his memory with the fondest recollection; and with a warmth of attachment, that bordered upon enthusiasm, he has often declared, that he anticipated with pleasure the time, when he should again be re-united with him in another world. The influence of a man thus loved and honoured must have operated with the most beneficial effect upon the minds of his pupils. At a period of life the most prone to imitation, before usurping prejudices and inveterate habits have yet established their dominion, there is a natural propensity to the prevailing sentiments and manners of those with whom we associate; and particularly where we are taught to look up to them as our instructors, and the objects of our imitation. The benefit which society derives, therefore, from the exertions of an individual thus qualified for the arduous task of education, is altogether incalculable; for the influence which is thus early obtained over youth is never, perhaps, wholly obliterated; in some measure therefore he may be regarded as the parent of their minds, as the modeller of their future lives.

There is a curious epistle, which he wrote to his father shortly after his arrival at Durham, complaining of a want of constancy in his pursuits; and how much his attention to his school duties had been diverted by that propensity to novelty, so natural to the ardour of youthful minds. This, like all the rest of his early productions, bears the strongest marks of a

vigorous and active mind, and evinces a maturity of capacity and judgment, that might almost enable him to rank with those literary phenomena, whose precocity of intellect and attainments have excited so much curiosity and astonishment.

"You will no doubt," says he, "be sufficiently satisfied of the natural inconstancy of your son, and how impossible it is for him ever to continue steadfast to any one employment, when you see how like a rebel I have shook off the yoke of Hogarth and other celebrated painters, after it had begun to grow tolerably easy to me, and willingly entered into the service of the muses, a service which preys upon my thoughts night and day, without intermission. The only satisfaction I can propose to myself, is, that you above all won't be angry with me, nay, that you will even be pleased at my servitude, and beg my mistress to lord it over me with more imperious sway. I beg, father, that you would accept kindly the first fruits of a genius yet unripe, and which perhaps may promise something better when at maturity. The letter enclosed I wrote on purpose to show the natural wavering of my mind, for which I have been often upbraided by Mr. A."

The enclosed letter, to which he alludes, was a poetical epistle to his father, in which, after enumerating the variety of objects that had occupied his attention at different times, he observes that the muses, willing to augment the number of their votaries, had at length retained him in their service, and had bound him fast with a chain, which it was his pleasure to wear. This epistle appears to be the first fruits of his devotion to their shrine; and though they had not yet bestowed upon him any very sublime portion of their inspiration, yet he courted their aid with such assiduous zeal, as to merit from them a more grateful return.

Though he seems to have presumed upon his father's approbation of this his last pursuit, yet it is certain, that it was regarded by some of his friends as no very favourable symptom of his future attainments. Mr. A. the gentleman to whom he alludes in the last letter as having upbraided him for his

sickleness, in a letter to his father about the beginning of 1748, speaks of him in the following terms :

"George has this day entered at the writing school, and wants nothing but application, to do well there, or at any other school. I am spurring him up every day; so that I believe he looks upon me as his continual tormentor. His greatest unhappiness is, that he is fond of every new thing, and as soon weary of it. Were it possible to bring him off this temper, and to fix him at any study, which would be to his advantage, I should not doubt his proficiency: I wish when you write you would talk to him pretty warmly on this head; for this is his failing, and it must be corrected in time, if ever he make any progress in any point of learning; otherwise, he will have a smattering in every thing, and in reality know nothing. I must own I cannot but respect him on account of his parts, and could wish to see him make a proper use of them. I am sensible that all his faults are owing to his natural temper, which has too much of spirit and vivacity in it. I therefore believe, that harsh usage would not do with him, as it might break his spirits, and make him indifferent about every thing: the best way would be, to recommend to him for his own interest to leave off painting, poetry, and nonsense, which will never make him a halfpenny richer or wiser, and to apply himself to his school learning; and when he has any vacant time, let him employ it in reading history, or any other useful book, which may be of service to him afterward. Were you to do this yourself, it would have a greater impression upon him, than any thing I could say. I should not have said so much, but that I find you intend to breed him a scholar."

What impression these fears made upon his father is uncertain. He continued to indulge his passion for poetry, though not with so much hindrance to his school duties as is here supposed; on the contrary, in a letter to his father in December 1748, a very flattering testimony to his proficiency is borne him by his uncle, who thus expresses himself:

"I should be glad to know what your resolution is about George. As he has made such progress in school learning, I hope you design to complete him as a scholar. Indeed it would be throwing away all the money you have laid out upon him not to do it. He is a boy of a very promising genius and fine parts; and as a few years more at his books would fit him for public usefulness, I would have you by all means put him forward. It will not only be doing him justice, but it will be your easiest way of providing for him in the world. If he has his health, and his application is in any degree answerable to his parts, I make no doubt but he will one day shine in a bookish profession; but in any other way or life (his particular turn of mind considered) there is very little reason to think he will make any figure at all. I have a great desire, I confess, that George should apply himself to the study of divinity; in which way it may possibly be in my power, if God shall continue my life, to be assisting to him more ways than one."

It was at this period, that his destination for the ministry was finally decided. In consequence of this, and of his uncle's removal to Leeds, having been chosen pastor of the Mill-hill meeting house of that town, it was thought advisable, previous to his studying at one of the Scotch universities, to remove him for some time to a dissenting academy at Kendal, under the care of Dr. Rotherham. He was accordingly sent thither at the latter end of the year 1749. In this situation he still continued to indulge his taste for poetry; it was here that he composed the greater part of his imitations of Anacreon; they are specimens of the proficiency which he had made in an art, to which in his early youth he was so much devoted, and of the excellence to which in all probability he would have attained, if he had continued to indulge his imagination at the expense of the more serious and profound studies, in which he was afterwards engaged.

If we may judge from a catalogue of the books that he took with him to Kendal, among which were two

ditions of Euclid, Gravesandes Institutions, Sherwin's Tables, &c. he must already have entered upon the study of the mathematics. It is however certain, that during his residence here, he pursued it with great vigour. His ardour indeed in the prosecution of his studies was so great, as to occasion considerable uneasiness to his friends, lest his health should fall a sacrifice, and induced them to remonstrate with him upon the necessity of remitting in some measure the severity of his application. The effect of these admonitions was but temporary, for he appears soon after to have brought on a severe fit of illness by his excessive and unremitted attention to his books.

In 1751 he left Kendal,* and removed the same year to Edinburgh. Among other recommendatory letters he had one from his uncle, to principal Wishart, which was of considerable service to him, as it introduced him to the particular notice of that gentleman, who was pleased to honour him during the whole of his residence here with many personal attentions. He enjoyed also the advantage of

pursuing his mathematical studies under the tuition of the celebrated Matthew Stewart. As hitherto probably his reading upon these subjects

Pleased with the view of your quadrant, I have made one of copper, about seventeen inches radius, which is long enough to admit of a degree of the quadrant to be divided into eight parts, though I have yet divided it only into four. To prove the exactness of it, I measured a window; when my observation wanted not three inches of the truth in twenty-five feet. Not content with simply using it for taking altitudes, I fixed to it a piece of copper moveable on the centre, with two sights upon it, and two also on the one side of the quadrant; by which means I can apply it to surveying, where the angles don't exceed ninety degrees. This use of it is indeed amusing, and yields an agreeable satisfaction, to be thus enabled to measure inaccessible heights and distances: yet easy as it is, I knew nothing of it till you first pointed it out to me; &c."

Mr. Walker was always much devoted to the practice of the mechanic arts; and the manual occupations of the leather and the chisel continued during the greatest part of his life to furnish an agreeable occupation to his leisure hours. In this, as in every thing to which he applied himself, he exhibited proofs of uncommon excellence: his work was much admired for its truth and accuracy; his filing was so remarkable that in point of flatness it was equal to grinding, in the technical language of the trade it was what is expressed by filing hollow. He betrayed also considerable powers of invention: he constructed a chuck upon an entire new principle; his ingenuity was also apparent in a very curious machine for drilling holes perfectly perpendicular to the plate, which was but a secondary invention for the purpose of accomplishing his plan of wheels and pinions with loose rollers to avoid friction, a principle which he afterwards applied to a clock that he constructed with his own hands. In the latter part of his life he had also invented a very curious machine for drawing all the conic sections, which, though he did not live to finish it, yet showed the highest degree of inventive mechanical genius, in combination with his mathematical powers.

It may not be improper to notice also the excellence of his drawing, as an additional proof of the versatility of his talent. He had early in life been at very consid-

* From the following extract of a letter written at this time to a fellow student, it is probable that he experienced no very important benefit from his residence here.

I will tell you of a piece of practical knowledge I have lately gained. Our good academical tutor thought it not his duty to instruct me in this or in any other kind of practice, but, as some recompense for the sums he got from us, filled our brains with a deal of fine speculative knowledge, without once showing the several useful and entertaining purposes, to which these particular branches of learning were adapted. We have learnt plane trigonometry, and to measure towers and castles on white paper, without knowing that a quadrant existed but by name. We have learnt spherical trigonometry, without the convenience of a globe, and with but a faint idea of the situation of the several circles in the various positions of it. We have read philosophy, without being informed that there was a planet in the heavens, unless our faith were much stronger than our experience: and lastly we have studied astronomy, without the knowledge of one star in the firmament. But I return from this digression to my subject.

had been chiefly under his own direction, it was fortunate for him, that in the further prosecution of this science he had the assistance of so eminent a master, who was remarked for the purity of his taste, as well as the elegance of his demonstrations founded on the clear and perspicuous style of the antients. In a letter to his uncle he thus describes the different studies in which he was engaged:

"Morality, criticism, and some of the higher branches of mathematics, are the public classes in which I am engaged. The second is taught by the professor of logic, who gives lectures likewise on Longinus and Aristotle's poetics; and how just and useful his remarks are may easily be judged by the universal applause they meet with, though without any ornaments of dress to set them off. An acquaintance with some of the rules of criticism is certainly, if not absolutely necessary, since it tends immediately to form the taste in reading, and guide the judgment between those two equally injudicious extremes, of ill-naturedly censuring and ridiculously extolling every thing we read, &c."

In another letter to a friend he upbrosoms completely upon the subject of his present situation and the state of his mind; after describing the variety of his occupations, he adds, "Do not suppose that I would image myself to you as a laborious student, who naturally feels more delight in reading a battle of Homer, or a crabbed controversy in theology, than when a boy in striking a quoit or a tennisball. Nature has not been so indulgent to me, as to make what

derable expense and trouble in collecting the engravings of the Italian and other artists; some of the most admired specimens of these he afterwards employed himself in copying for his friends; the extreme accuracy with which they were traced was surprising. There was also a freedom and boldness in his hatches, which preserved all the spirit of the original. It is difficult to speak in adequate terms of the excellence to which he attained in the various objects to which he directed his attention, without appearing to use the language of exaggeration.

is necessary so highly agreeable; for however generous she may have been to me at my birth, either she herself, or habit, or perhaps both, have dashed the present with a mixture of indolence, that has been my darling foible since I first knew a letter; and even in riper years, not even the fear of a rod could closet me with a classical author, when the temptation of play and diversion with companions of my own stamp interfered. Since the period indeed when ambition and pride could have a proper influence upon me, the spirit of emulation, the desire of answering if possible the warm expectations of my friends, and what my own ambition may have imagined, and of sustaining with some tolerable repute the public profession I am designed for, have made me industriously strive to curb this passion, before my character in life could draw its complexion from it; and whether I have succeeded or no, or whether I am deceived, and necessity alone makes me virtuous, I know not; but (vanity apart) I cannot but be pleased to find with how much satisfaction I can spend my time in the pursuit of philosophy natural and moral. To it I have sacrificed all inferior sciences, as amusements more proper for a settled period of life, than an age when industry and application must lay the ground-work for the whole of it. Hogarth I have discarded, indeed it is some time since he has been out of favour. But the muses grumble hard at the little respect I pay them, and perhaps mean never to assist me in any composition for the future. But when I petition them, then may they deny me! For to say the truth, the flights and raptures of a poetical imagination are but luxuriant branches in the composition of a sermon, and rather veil than give a lustre to the good sense which may attend it: for it is not the eloquence of words without a meaning, or the smoothness of the periods, that constitute an orator, but the justness of his arguments, the method of arranging them, the knowledge of mankind, and withal the honesty of his own sentiments, and fixed regard for truth, which is his constant prompter, and

gives life and irresistible spirit to the whole barangue."

In this lively description may be clearly discerned a predominance of those sentiments and feelings, by which his subsequent character and writings were so strongly marked. There is indeed throughout the whole of it a justness of sentiment, and an accuracy of style, that would characterize it as the production of a maturer age. Though his inclinations strongly led him to mathematical pursuits, yet he did not suffer himself to be engrossed by them to the neglect of those particular studies, which were necessary to qualify him for the exercise of his future profession. In consequence of this he soon after determined to sacrifice the advantages, which this situation afforded him, of prosecuting these inquiries, and to remove to Glasgow, where he had better opportunities of cultivating, what he always regarded as his prime object, theology. Accordingly, after having at his own request spent the intervening vacation with his uncle at Leeds, that he might have the further advantage of his assistance, he entered as a student of this university at the latter end of 1752.

The chair of divinity was at that time filled by Dr. Leechman, whose learning and liberality did honour to his situation. His lectures were undebased by any tincture of bigotry or prejudice; there appeared in them no particular attachment to any sect, no espousal of any favourite tenets; it was his primary object to establish the fundamental truths of natural and revealed religion, and thence to deduce such reflections, as were calculated to impress upon the minds of his pupils the excellence and necessity of those doctrines, which they enjoined. It was the custom of Mr. Walker, to commit to short-hand the heads of the lectures during the delivery, and afterward to re-compose them with such additions as his memory served to supply; by which means he was enabled more thoroughly to imbibe the spirit of them, and to fix them in his mind.

Soon after his arrival he was chosen a member of a club, that met alternately at each others lodging for the purpose of literary discussion. Each individual in his turn was obliged to supply the subject of the evening, either by the contribution of an original paper, or a translation of some celebrated passage from the ancients. The discussion which followed the reading of the paper generally occupied two or three hours. Mr. Walker was very sensible of the advantages which he derived from such an institution. The desire of excelling in these literary disputations stimulated the mind to exertion, a spirit of emulation was excited in the compositions which they were required to furnish; and as they generally came prepared for the evening's encounter by a previous consideration of the subject, it frequently happened, that a considerable degree of information was obtained from their free and unreserved communication of sentiments.

The period was now approaching, when he was to relinquish the peaceful studies of an academical life, and adventure upon the busy theatre of the world. The part that he was called upon to sustain was of more difficulty, than what is allotted to the generality of its actors. It required an exemption from those minor blemishes and imperfections, that might have passed unnoticed in subordinate characters, but in him would have impaired those excellencies, that were to enable him to support it with dignity and propriety. He has answered the trial; he has performed the part assigned him; and through every varying scene he has trodden the stage with honour and applause. The curtain has at length dropped on him, and he is seen no more; the approbation or censure of the world can no longer affect him: we may therefore, in conformity with the maxim of an ancient sage, definitely pronounce upon the part that he has performed, we may retrace his path of life, and hold it up to the imitation of those, who are determined to succeed him.

To be Continued.

DETACHED ANECDOTES.

CARDS.

THIS fashion had an origin prophetic of its future application. Cards were invented for the recreation of a royal idiot, and if some stop be not made to their progress, they will make idiots of us all. They are destructive of rational conversation, and like the forest laws of William Rufus, destroy the traces of culture, and bid fair to depopulate the regions of mind.

GROTIUS, AND TILLENUS

The learned and virtuous tutor of Turenne, was a Protestant from conviction, and from study of the Scriptures; consequently did not pin his faith on any man's sleeve. Grotius was the same. The French attorney general said of them one day, "I cannot think where those men will find a grave, for they are neither Lutherans nor Calvinists."

RELIGIOUS DISPUTES.

The violent disputes between the Gomarists and Armenians, that broke out in Holland in 1609, ended in a complete victory on the part of the former at the synod of Dordrecht. While the sword hung over their heads it was tyranny and persecution that wielded it: but when they got it into their own hands, it was divine justice that caused it to fall on their antagonists. Barneveldt, the grand pensionary, felt this; whose head, Diodati of Geneva observed, was carried away by the *canons* of the synod of Dort. Even at Sedan Tilenus was disturbed by them. The duke of Bouillon teased him very much on this point. When the tolerant divine remonstrated on his not allowing him quietly to hold principles, which he himself once approved, the duke answered, that he had changed his religion at the request of the king of England, James I, with whom he wished to be on good terms. To this Tilenus replied, that kings had no influence over his conscience; and that he should live and die an Armenian, to be on good terms with God.

- A PROTESTANT POPE.

Du Perron was the first Catholic, who wrote a controversial work on religion in French, a practice before him

so peculiar to the Huguenots, that it was considered a mark of heresy. His zeal against the Protestants, and in particular his conference with du Plessis Mornay, who was commonly called the pope of the Huguenots, made his fortune. Henry IV alluding to this conference, said to Sully, who was a Protestant, "*Your pope has been completely vanquished.*" "Sire," answered the duke, "you call him pope in jest, but, as a proof of his being pope in earnest, depend upon it he will make a cardinal of abbe du Perron." In fact, the conference with du Plessis procured du Perron a cardinal's hat. In the same manner Dr. Priestley is said to have made Horsley a bishop, while other dignitaries of the church are surmised also to have owed their promotion to writing against him.

GUYMOND DE LA TOUCHE.

It is not usual for a parent to encourage a son in the pursuit of poetry. This young man, when at Paris finishing his studies, composed a tragedy. His father, who was the king's attorney at Chateaufort, being informed of it, wrote him word, that, if his play were received at the theatre, he might remain at Paris, and he would allow him sixty guineas a year; if not, he must return home immediately, to marry and settle in the country. His play was brought out; at the sound of the first music the young poet was with difficulty kept from fainting. After the play had passed its ordeal, it was applauded with vehemence, and the author was more loudly called for, than even Voltaire ever was. He was the first writer, that appeared on the stage after the representation of his piece. His emotion may better be conceived than expressed; and after he withdrew he fainted on the stairs leading from the stage to the green-room.

HENRY I. OF MONTMORENCI.

The marshal duke of Montmorenci being taken in arms against his king at the battle of Castelnaudary, was beheaded at Toulouse; the implacable Richelieu refusing his pardon to the whole nobility of France, who

demand it on their knees. When Guitaut, who was examined as a witness against him, was asked, whether he knew the marshal in the battle; he answered, with tears in his eyes, "The fire, blood, and smoke that covered him, prevented me at first from distinguishing him; but when I saw a man, who, after having broken six of our ranks, was slaughtering the soldiers in the seventh, I judged it could be no one but the duke of Montmorenci; I did not know it certainly, till I saw him lying on the ground under his horse that was slain."

His tomb is still at Moulines. The revolutionists were about to destroy it, when a voice was heard, crying: "What! are you going to destroy the tomb of a patriot, who fell a victim to despotism?"

FATE OF A COMEDY.

Colin de Harleville, a little before his death, wrote a comedy, entitled *Brothers' Quarrels*, which the manager to whom he offered it, returned with such animadversions, that the author ordered his servant to throw it into the fire. The girl however, thinking she might as well make a penny of it, if her master could not, sold it for waste paper. After it was thus condemned to enwrap cheese and bacon, the first leaf luckily met the eyes of a person, who knew the handwriting of the deceased. He repaired to the cheesemonger's, saved the whole from the fate that threatened it, and offered it to another manager, who judged of it less severely, brought it out, and it had a great run.

ORIGINAL POETRY.

To the Proprietors of the Belfast Magazine.

The following poetical addresses to Pleiskin and Fair-head, were written by Humphry Davy, Professor of Chemistry at the Royal Institution, London, during, or after his visit to this country. They had got into circulation in manuscript, and thinking, as well from their excellence, as their being descriptive of local scenery in this country, they would be acceptable to many readers of your magazine, I had an application made through the medium of a friend in London to the author for liberty to publish them in it, to which request he obligingly consented.

K.

TO FAIR HEAD

IN THE COUNTY ANTRIM.

FAIR are the noblest forms of art, and fair
The mimic excellence, with which genius
clothes
The tints that waken into perfect life;
Delightful is the harmony of thought
Which from the mind creative can produce
The beautiful, decorous, or sublime;
These faculties are glorious, but they are
As dreams, or semblances, remote and faint
Of the eternal and mysterious power
Which lives, and moves unaltered; of that
power
From whom the great realities arise,
BELFAST MAG. NO. XXVII.

Which form the life of nature, and the
change,

And endless motion of all natural things;
A power most simply felt, and best conceived

In that tumultuous passion of the soul,
When new sensations from the outward
world

Impress themselves in rapture:

Such of late

Have often visited my changeful mind,
Amidst the awful rocks and stormy
shores

Of Northern Erin—and have kindly left
A lovely vision, which will never die;
Hence in the busy stirrings of the world,
And in the weariness of active life
Oft shall I image, in their vividness,
The lofty promontory, and the cliff,
And the wide ocean, and the moving air
Raising the wave.

But chiefly thee, Fairhead,
Unrivalled in thy form and majesty,
For on thy mighty summit I have walked
In the bright sunshine, whilst beneath my
feet

The clouds have rolled in splendour, hid-
ing now

As if reluctantly, whilst full in view
The blue tide wildly rolled, skirted with
foam,

And bounded by the green and smiling
land,

The dun pale mountain, and the purple
sky;

Stupendous cliffs, the birth of unknown
years

Long have the billows beat thee, long the
 flood
 Rush'd o'er thy pillar'd rocks, ere life a-
 durn'd
 Thy broken surface, ere the yellow moss,
 Had tinted thee, or the soft dew of
 Heaven
 Crown'd thee with verdure, or the eagles
 made
 Thy caves their airy——
 So in after time
 Long shalt thou rest unaltered 'midst the
 wreck
 Of all the mightiness of human works.
 For not the lightning, nor the whirlwind's
 force,
 Nor all the waves of ocean shall prevail
 Against thy giant strength, and thou
 shalt stand
 'Till that almighty voice which bade thee
 rise
 Shall bid thee fall.

TO PLEISKIN ;

THE billows break around thee, and thy
 tints
 Enrich the bosom of the Ocean-wave ;
 Wild is thy broken outline, where the
 curve
 Of varied beauty, and the abrupt sublime,
 Impress a mingled feeling. The wild storm
 That whitens thy foundations, troubles not
 E'en with its lightest spray, its top-most
 crag.
 Such is thy loftiness, thy Giant form
 Supreme ; thy majesty ; yet still enhanc'd
 By wondrous semblances, closely allied
 To perfect art ; displaying such design
 As kindled in the great creative mind
 Of him whose genius warm in life and
 power,
 From all the elements that nature gave,
 Of grand or lovely, with the nicest skill
 Selective, those that blend in harmony,
 And raised as if by the magician's art,
 The gothic pile, magnificent and chaste
 In airy lightness, yet unrival'd strength,
 Hyacinthous in parts, majestic as a whole.
 Pleiskin ! the fancy wakens as the sense
 Glows at thy noble features, and the mind
 Is carried back to those remoter times,
 When superstition imaged in his power
 *The Danish King, with more than mortal
 strength,

*The author is mistaken in calling the person, to whom this fabled exploit is attributed, the *Danish King*. The pretensions of the renowned Fingal to this honour are undisputed in Ireland, every peasant, there, knowing that the giant Fin M'Cumhal, or M'Cool (the common name of Fingal) erected the stupendous fabric here alluded to ; and that Fin M'Cool was an Irish giant, we hope the author will not deny, or at least that he will not be so imprudent as to dispute the fact with the peasants afore-said.

With more than mortal attributes endow-
 ed ;
 Whose mighty feet, dashed back the
 foamy sea,
 Whose mighty arm uprear'd the pillar'd
 rocks,
 And fixed the everlasting boundary
 Of Erin's lovely Isle.

ODE TO IDLENESS.

GODDESS of Ease, leave Lethe's brink,
 Obsequious to the Muse and me,
 For once endure the pain to think,
 Oh sweet insensibility !

Sister of Ease and Indolence,
 Thou Muse, bring numbers soft and slow,
 Elaborately void of sense,
 And sweetly thoughtless let them flow.

Beneath some ozier's dusky shade,
 There let me sleep away dull hours,
 And underneath let Flora spread,
 A sofa of her sweetest flowers.

Whilst Philomel her notes shall breath
 Forth from the neighbouring pine,
 And murmurs from the stream beneath
 Shall flow in unison with thine.

For thee, O Idleness, the woes
 Of life we patiently endure,
 Thou art the source whence labour flows,
 We shun thee, but to make thee sure.

For who'd endure War's storm and blast,
 Or the hoarse thundering of the sea,
 But to be idle at the last,
 And find a pleasing end in thee. A.

AN ELEGY.

IN these fair climes where summer's gen-
 tle gales,
 Shake sweetest odours from their dewy
 plumes,
 Silent I ramble thro' the lonely vales
 When pensive evening brings her twilight
 glooms.

Where'er I turn, I gaze with mute sur-
 prise,
 Here careless nature sports in every part,
 Unzones her beauties to admiring eyes,
 And with new transport thrills the insatiate
 heart.

Here silver streamlets glitter thro' the
 grove,
 And softly murmur as they pour along ;
 From tree to tree the feathered songsters
 rove,
 And the sweet woodlark thrills her eve-
 ning song.

But can the view of Nature's beauties
 please
 The eye where tears so long are wont to
 flow?
 Or can the wildest, sweetest wood-notes
 ease,
 The heart that bleeds with long-remember'd
 woe?
 They cannot heal: yet they can charm
 awhile,
 And give the care-worn heart a short relief,
 We gaze, we listen, we consent to smile,
 For feeling bosoms taste a joy in grief.
 Yes! there are moments dear to feeling
 minds,
 When Memory bids the tide of rapture
 flow
 Breathing their whispered fancies to the
 winds,
 They smile in sorrow and rejoice in woe.
 It's I, who absent from my native plains
 Am doom'd forlorn o'er distant lands to
 roam,
 Impell'd by fate to cross the trackless
 main,
 And seek of strangers an uncertain home,
 Am not unblest; for fancy still supplies,
 Some sweet relief to soothe my bosom's
 woe,
 And whilst I wipe the tear drops from mine
 eyes
 Half believe that 'tis for joy they flow.
 Remembrance shows those hours for ever
 fled,
 When youthful hope improved each distant
 view,
 Outwinn'd her choicest garland round my
 head,
 And smiled on all that busy Fancy drew.
 Her magic smiles o'ercame my untired
 eyes,
 Her sweetly warbled strains entranced
 my ear,
 Her fiducious friend! she gave me ceaseless
 sighs
 And for my only solace, gave a tear.

HENRY.

LORD ELLESMERE.*

SOUND thy horn my bonny boy blue,
 Sound it mellow and clear,
 The morning breaks and wet is the dew,
 And I'll up and hunt the deer.
 Oh! do not, do not," cries Eleanor fair
 The wife of the lord Ellesmere,
 Oh do not my love for I cannot bear,
 That thou should'st hunt the deer.

*This little poem was written after reading
 of sentimental poetry to show how easily the
 imitation of sentimentality and its smooth language
 may be imitated and ridiculed.

For I have read that the stag, when
 sorely press'd,
 And struck with the hunter's spear,
 Heaves piteous groans from his anxious
 breast,
 And rolls down the big round tear.

Then promise me, love, that you won't
 oppress,
 So forlorn and so timid a foe—
 Poor thing, abandon'd by friends in dis-
 tress.
 Would you aggravate his woe?"

"I will not, my treasure, the stag pursue,
 Thou pattern of pity so rare;
 But sound thy horn my bonny boy blue,
 For I'll up and hunt the Hare."

"Oh! do not, do not," cries Eleanor fair,
 The wife of the lord Ellesmere,
 "But list to the tale of a hunted hare—
 'Twill beguile thee, love, of a tear."

One day as I sat by the river's brink
 A hare ran panting by,
 She stopped, she trembled, she tried to
 drink—
 While she listened the hunters' cry.

The hunters approached, and the dogs
 were nigh,
 The poor hare with terror oppress'd,
 Upturned her dim imploring eye—
 I snatched her up in my breast—

And I bore her away from the dogs so
 fell,
 And the dogs were at fault till eve,
 And I heard you storm, but I knew full
 well
 That my love would his Ellen forgive.

And I soothed her, and fed her, and made
 her a bed,
 And she's grown so tame and so free,
 That she comes and eats from my hand
 the bread,
 Come puss, let your master see.

Poor Puss! he will not hurt thee now,
 He will not for Ellen's sake—
 Thou shalt never be hurt, I have made a
 vow,
 And that vow my love will not break.

"No! by my soul," cried Ellesmere,
 And he kissed her cheek so fair,
 And he dropped on that cheek a gentle
 tear,
 And he patted the hunted hare."

"Then sound thy horn my bonny boy blue,
 Against the fox and the wolf prepare,
 For thy sake I never again will pursue
 Thy favorites the deer and the hare."

STANZAS,

ON A MOST INTELLIGENT YOUNG LADY,

Written at the request of a friend.

DEAR Winning ! since you so desire,
That I once more should tune the lyre,
Of late untun'd so long ;
Thy own Melinda's praise I'll tell,
And with her bright perfections swell
The measures of my song.

With joy I'll still recall that night,
When first she met my eager sight,
I thought not then to find,
Though high her worth you had pourtray'd,
So bright, unparallel'd a maid,
In manners and in mind !

Her looks my first attention caught,
They shew'd a mind correct in thought,
'Good natur'd, free, and warm,
And when she spoke, the pleasing tone,
Made every listening ear her own,
And we enjoy'd the charm.

Each sentence seemed to flow unsought,
And flow'd, with bright ideas fraught,
In elegance array'd ;—
Their stores the intellectual band,
Obedient brought at her command,
And lavish'd on the maid !

What signifies the boasted shew,
That makes the haughty beauty glow,
If empty be the mind !
Let such in gaudy splendor roll,
Melinda boasts the charms of soul,
And leaves them far behind !

In vain, my friend, to eyes like thine,
Can all their useless gilding shine,
You love the BETTER part ;
The maid who has a taste refin'd,
The maid who has Melinda's mind,
Alone can touch your heart.

M^R ERIN.*Larne, Aug. 15, 1810.*

LAMBERT,

Or the Compassionate School-boy.

His heart, estranged from cruel sport, would bleed
To work the woe of any living thing. BEATTIE.

"YOU will not entice me along,"
Said Lambert, Compassion's sweet child ;
To play-mates who pass'd in a throng
To plunder a nest on the wild.
"I must from such pastime refrain ;
My mother, who bliss now receives,
Forbade me to sport with the pain
Of any one creature that lives.

"The miserable bird," she would say,
"That droops o'er her desolate nest,
Shares grief great as mine, on the day
When bad men your brothers impress'd ;

The cock that for carnage they heel,
The bull that they bait with their hounds,
Can pain e'en as sensibly feel
As themselves when they strive and get
wounds.

When panting and smoking, the steed
Mid mire, foam, and gore scours the
plain,
Who but mourns that so noble a breed
By base man was tam'd to the rein ?
When the carter's club beats till he
groan,
The dumb drudge that sinks on the road,
Who but hopes, that on Barb'ry's coast
thrown,
Some savage that clown may o'erload ?

If a sparrow falls not to the ground
Unnoticed by pitying Heav'n ;
And a stupid ass speech strangely found,
By a hypocrite cruelly driv'n ;
What drovers who harmless herds starve,
What butchers, who torture protract,
Shock Heaven's kind eye—where they
swerve—
Ne'er share in a similar act."

"Though sots in our kind-hearted Isle"
To my sire, said our teacher this morn
"Defend each old custom though vile,
And name Pagan virtues with scorn ;
By *Pythagoras*, the mild Grecian guide,
And the *Bramin* of India they're shaw'd,
Such saints would with famine have died
Ere they'd have one animal main'd."

Thro' life to remembrance I'll bring
These sentiments tender and just ;
Nor from insect of air pluck a wing,
Nor trample the reptile of dust.
"Nor we," cried the grouse, who with
shame

And joy, mix'd a smile with a blush—
A linnet with that homeward came,
But they turned from her sweet scented
bush. J.O.

Ballycarry.

AN EVENING PIECE.

BEHIND an envious cloud the sun declines,
His parting ray the mountain top illumines,
Slowly the empire of the day resigns,
And night encroaching, her dark reign
resumes.

A hazy mist enshrouds the mountain's
head,
And slow descending spreads along the
plain ;
The Western sky is ting'd with streaks of
red,
The vivid glow's reflected on the main.

The scene is painted on the water's face,
There other hills, another sky is seen,
The liquid lustre of the moon I trace,
Which tinges soft the ocean's silky green.

The white sail'd ships are scatter'd o'er
the deep,

The little painted boats are spread a-
round,

Silence and night do o'er the landscape
creep,

And scarce a breath disturbs the calm
profound.

Plantations thick are seen across the bay,
White villas gaily interspers'd between.

The contrast all the beauties does display,
The rugged Cave-Hill terminates the
scene. L.

A HYMN TO GRATITUDE ;

BY THE LATE ALEXANDER HALIDAY, M.D.

*Written in a bad state of health, which was
expected by himself, and his friends, to ter-
minate fatally.*

MY God, Creator, Father, Friend,
Thou great ineffable, to thee I bend,
With a devotion, warm, sincere ;
Touch'd by a holy rapturous flame,
I call upon thy blessed name,
O hear me, hearer thou of prayer !

Thy hand, that formed me in the womb,
Conducts me gently to the tomb,
Through thorns ; yet roses strew the way,
I calmly look through death's dark vale,
Nor then thy guiding hand shall fail,
But lead me through, to endless day.

When weak and helpless at my birth,
I was not left alone on earth,
But nurtured by maternal care ;
A father, next, my rising youth,
Preserved from vice, and filled with truth,
The mind, he thought, expanding fair.

What tho' my sun's twelfth yearly round,
Yet incomplete, no more the sound
Was heard of his instructive voice ;
I wept, yet not as without hope,
Thou, God, wert still my stay and prop ;
This made my wounded heart rejoice.

Nor then of near protection rest,
The mourning mother yet was left ;
From nature—by experience, wise,
Fond to approve, yet firm to chide,
And keep me in the path she tried,
Which reacheth onward to the skies.

A sister too, afflicted maid,
Yet happy through Religion's aid,
Taught me to raise to Heaven my eye ;
Too long she taught me how to bear
Sickness that wastes, and pains which tear,
Too soon she taught me how to die.

*And one mild friend of human kind,
Bless'd with pure elegance of mind,
Led me o'er fields of classic lore ;
†Another poured the Moral lay ;
‡A third the blaze of Freedom's day,
Which dawn'd on my young breast before,
Launched on the world's wide rolling wave,
On high a pole star shone to save ;
Virtue's fixed residence, and beaming
bright ;

Young eager Hope unfurled each sail,
Attention watched the tide and gale,
My trust in thee by day and night.

Or if Seduction's siren song,
E'er led me deviously among
The shelves that lurk round pleasure's
realm,

From thee descending quick, Remorse,
Roused Wisdom to resume her course,
And seized, with steady hand, the helm ;
Grave Science frowned not when I wooed,
Nor with averted forehead stood,
The Genius of those fiercer joys,
Which thou hast placed in Fancy's train,
Who the sad family of pain,
Enchantress bland, to please employs.

High those delights, but thou to higher,
Rid'st human nature to aspire,
When breathing in the heart a sense
Of what is good, and fair and true,
You wing, while it doth these pursue,
Its pantings, with benevolence.

Hence if through thee, I raised to health
The sick, or shared my little wealth
With those whom penury distress'd,
Or sooth'd the soul that inly mourn'd,
With gratitude my spirit burn'd,
For then I felt supremely bleas'd.

The stores that swell the port of pride,
To me thy bounty hath denied ;
Far better boons that bounty sent,
Where can ambition, avarice find,
To plant their thorns, when fill'd the mind
With independence and content ;

My friends have fallen, on every side ;
And graves, those dear connections hide,
Who fenced and smoothed my noon tide
path ;

Yet blessed be thy holy will,
Whether it comes to spare or kill,
In pity ; stranger thou to wrath.

Soon, soon shall I the train belov'd,
Now from my fond embrace remov'd,
In the dark house of silence join ;
Guides of my youth ! you wait me there,
And, pardon, God, this gushing tear,
I weep, yet hope I don't repine.

* Rev. Thomas Drennan. † Professor Hutcheson.
‡ William Bruce, esq.

Await me—what these mortal spoils
When loosed from earth-entangling toils,
Their spirits ranged through boundless
air,

Smiling thee point to yonder spheres;
Exhale, with radiance mild, my tears
And bid me for my flight prepare.

O could I, gracious God, before
I go, to be on earth no more,
The public happiness improve,
Could I the selfish wretch disarm,
Of faction's impious rage, and warm
Each bosom with its country's love!

Proud wish, yet should (O God, befriend
This humbler prayer) yet should I lend
Some aid to each endangered right
Which thy own charter gives to man,
For only these and conscience can
Edge the dark clouds of woe with light.

Or should I see, in some bless'd hour,
Prun'd the wild shoots of regal power;
Or the priests' worse dominion cease,
Exultingly, like him of old,
Who saw the blessing long foretold,
I'd cry, DISMISS MR. GOD, IN PEACE.

We feel sincere pleasure in presenting to the public, (a public more ready to sanctify the reliques of the dead, than to assign their just portion of applause to the productions of, the living,) the foregoing beautiful Hymn of the late Dr. Halliday. It is a composition equally pious and poetical, replete with gentle breathings of the heart, and its best affections.

It is curious, but true, that sickness is sometimes found to encrease rather than diminish the glow of genuine sensibility. In many (indeed, in most instances) it seems to recall, and contrain all the finer feelings into the hard shell of self, but in other happy and well-natured temperaments, "*ex maiore luto*," it gives occasion to the revival of early, and delightful associations, too long forgotten in the bewildering bustle of life. While the external senses are closing against present impressions, those ideas are seen more distinctly that pass along through the twilight of remembrance. As we recall the figure and the features of lost friends, with much more accuracy and vivacity, in our dreams, than in our waking thoughts; so the mind, in sickness, and, more especially, when the morbid gloom is brightened with a hopeful convalescence, is apt to be, at times, absorbed in delicious reverie, perfectly similar in its effects to a dream. We see, we hear, we address (absens, absente, audit que videt que) our long-lost relations and friends once so dear to us, in distinct, and pleasurable

imagery; and from the vividness of the imagination, at such periods of imperfect and blunted sensation, have, probably, originated the numerous stories of apparitions, and visitations from another world, summoned up by fear or affection, and authenticated by credulity.

"My Father!—methinks I see my Father!" But in this exclamation, Hamlet beheld that gracious figure, only through the morbid melancholy of a feeling mind. Horatio, who had really seen the ghost (of Shakespeare's fancy) immediately cries out, "where, my Lord?" supposing Hamlet had just seen his second coming, but he, calmly and sorrowfully answers, "*In my mind's eye*, Horatio;" seen by one "whose wit was diseased" as he afterwards informs us. Although, in the progress of the play, he is represented as counterfeiting madness, in the first part of it, he is evidently under the influence of an incipient insanity, in which the objects of imagination appear to have an existence, independent of volition. It is in this loosened frame of mind he exclaims, "My father—I think I see my father,"—not the ghost, embodied as it (perhaps faultily*) is by Shakespeare, for the purpose of being seen, as never ghost was seen, by the spectators, but the mere creature of morbid fancy, and disturbed intellect.

In like manner, the visions of fever are common thoughts or ideas, so exalted by irritability as to assume the force of real sensations. In one case of fever, which many years ago deprived his country of a lawyer, whose genius, eloquence, and literary acquirements were such as must have speedily raised him to the first honours of the profession, the patient, while supposed delirious, suddenly burst forth into a Latin harangue, so correct, energetic and exuberant, as filled with astonishment those who had reason to be best acquainted with the extent of his powers, and the torrent of his imagination.

This was indeed a lucid interval, and in some such season of sleeping sense, and busied fancy, a season which may be supposed favourable to the poetic inspiration, by withdrawing us from sensible impressions, and accumulating and condensing the force of imagination into a lively personification of images (what else

* As many things are written "to split the ears of the groundlings," so the eyes of grown up children must be fixed and fascinated by the sliding or oftener striking trap-door ghost of Bash and blood, we should see the royal Dane, or the blood-bolstered Banquo only through the agonizing terror of Garrick or Kemble.

is poetry) it was, at a season similar to this, that our honoured townsman penned the foregoing hymn, and called up the shadows of memory into an existence which still lives before us.

In this piece of devotional poetry, we see reflected, the mind of a man who lived under a strong impression of the existence, the perfections, and the manifold mercies of the greatest and best of Beings; and who kept himself always ready to meet death (as he did afterwards meet it) not with the panic of preparation, but with decent composure, and placid submission to the inevitable order of nature. Such a man does what he can for immortality, who makes his virtues vital even in the grave.

We may observe, in the close of the poem, how strongly the writer felt the glow of the patriot passion, even in the prospect of death, that lovely love of native land, with which existing, every thing good and magnanimous springs and flourishes in liveliest verdure; which decaying, every thing mean, selfish, pusillanimous, and corrupt, thrives and prospers; which, extinguished, even hope itself is lost. Never, surely, was there a period in the annals of our history where public spirit was at the same low estimation. Had

he whom we are fond to commemorate; he, whose patriotism animated, and who illumined the Northern Whig Club; who, in the year 1782 (that *lucid interval* in which fancy painted long years of happiness to come, then awoke, and found it a dream) received a Charlemont and a Grattan for his guests; he, who, about the same time, addressed Lord Camden with such characteristic dignity and propriety, and who afterwards, at the table of another noble lord, vindicated the honour of his country and of human nature, when it was contended, that *Ireland could be governed only by corruption*.—Had this patriotic physician lived at the present day, and been witness to the torpor and indifferance of Irishmen on the question of a repeal of the union act, and a re-establishment of a country (for what is country without LEGISLATIVE INDEPENDENCE) he would, perhaps, have likened the present palpitation in the capital, and quiescence of the rest of the island, to that state in the body which precedes final dissolution; when the pulse of the heart vibrates with extraordinary quickness, but little strength, and vainly strives to drive the animal heat into the cold and lifeless extremities.

DISCOVERIES AND IMPROVEMENTS IN ARTS, MANUFACTURES, &c.

Patent of Mr. John Williams of Cornhill, London, Stationer, for an addition to wheel carriages, to render them more safe.

Dated June, 1810.

THE addition to wheel carriages, which Mr. Williams calls a preserver, is formed by two curved pieces of iron that project downwards, within five or six inches of the ground, from the axletree, one of which extends forwards, and the other backwards somewhat more than the length of the spoke in two wheeled carriages, and less than half that length in four wheeled carriages; an horizontal stay connects these curved pieces, which in the first mentioned vehicles serves merely for strength, but in the latter it descends below the other parts and is bent slightly downwards

in the middle, so as to form a slide, on which the carriage may be drawn in case of necessity. The use of these preservers is, in two-wheeled carriages, to prevent them from falling over backwards or forwards, if the horse should happen to meet with an accident or prove vicious, and also to prevent their falling sideways if a wheel comes off or is broken. In four wheel carriages they serve for the latter purpose alone, and for this reason they extend so much less either way from the vertical line of the axle. The curvature of the descending parts of the preserver somewhat resembles the letter S, by which their extremities are prevented from entering the ground when they come in contact with it, and admit of being drawn along the road without injuring it, if an acci-

dent happening to a wheel should make this necessary. The whole apparatus is connected to the axle, by a vertical socket fastened to it by a clip plate and bolts at each side, with an internal slide, which admits of its being raised or lowered to that distance from the ground, which the nature of the road may render advisable, and a pin, passed across through holes in the socket and slide, secures it in this position.

Mr. Williams mentions in an advertisement, that the preservers are best made of tempered steel, as being lighter, stronger, and more elastic, and need not weigh more than thirty pound a pair, and that they were used in the first instance for private security and convenience in travelling daily from Blackheath to London; but as much injury has been received by many persons from the accidents which the preservers are designed to prevent; he was desirous of making the benefit universal. Licenses may be had from Mr. Williams for using these preservers at one guinea per annum, or ten guineas perpetual.

Observation. This contrivance has a strong analogy to the *idle wheels* of the Rev. Mr. Milton's patent-coach; the slide in the one being designed for the same purpose as the wheel in the other. The slides, however, seem preferable on account of their greater lightness and less cost; for though an idle wheel would render the motion easier, and be better if the carriage was to be supported by it for any considerable distance, yet as few, if any cases would occur in which this would be necessary for more than a few perches, these circumstances in its favour do not seem of much importance.

Patent of Mr. William Shakespear and Mr. Thomas Osler of Birmingham, Glass-chandelier manufacturers, for a new method of constructing glass or paste drops for chandeliers and Lustres. Dated July, 1810.

The patentees direct, that, in making drops for lustres in their method, after the drop is formed in the usual manner, the part of it intended to receive the metallic loop, or piece of metal

of which such loop is intended to be made, is re-melted or so far softened by heat as to admit of the metallic loop, or piece of metal, being pressed or worked into it; which is to be done by a pair of pincers or other proper tool. Or the loop, being previously inserted in the mould or die, may be fixed in the act of moulding or forming the drop, but the patentees prefer the former method as being most secure. They also think silver or copper to be best for the loops. Sometimes a small notch or groove is cut in that part of the loop inserted in the glass, but this they do not think to be essential.

Observation. The effect of this invention will be to reduce the price of the beautiful ornaments for apartments, in which these drops are used; for in forming drops in the old method a considerable part of the labour, and risk of breaking them, was incurred in drilling the holes through them for the loops, which will be entirely saved by the patent method, above described.

Patent of Mr. Edward Shorter of Wapping, London, for a method of working Pumps in Ships.

Dated March, 1803.

This method of working pumps is effected by a wheel similar to that of a smoke jack, attached to a bar, which passes through it at right angles; which bar is connected by a chain to the axis of a crank, that works the pump rod. The axis of the crank is placed in the direction of the keel, and the impelling wheel placed in the sea is drawn after the ship at the stern, where it will turn round with a velocity proportioned to that of the progress of the ship; a round bar passing through a proper socket in the stern of the ship, and furnished with universal joints at each end, connects the external to the internal parts of the apparatus.

Mr. Shorter also mentions that his plan may be applied to working pumps, by exposing a fly of proper dimensions to the action of the wind instead of the water, with such alterations in the structure of the apparatus as the case may require.

Observation....The first method proposed would impede the ship considerably, be much in the way, and have no sufficient effect to counterbalance these disadvantages. The second method has not the same defects, but as the patentee has only hinted at it, but not described how it is to be effected, his patent cannot of course prevent any one from using the idea, who has ingenuity to overcome the considerable difficulties that are in the way of its practical application.

Account of 110 Acres gained from the sea, on the coast of Essex; by Thomas Quayle, esq. of Reading.

Trans. Soc. Arts. VIII. 83.

The natural shore of this district is composed of sand, on the greatest part of it the water for four or five miles to sea is discoloured by a mixture of mud or ooze. This is deposited on the shore; and together with the sea weed driven thither by tempests, and the shells of some species of the smaller testaceous fish, slowly accumulates, and is condensed by the heat of the sun, and the gradual discharge of the sea water during the ebb. In the course of many years, this new soil yields some scattered marks of vegetation. The plants thus appearing, though not of much value, being principally marsh samphire, and other coarse marine productions, have the good effect of giving cohesion to the loose soil, and of enabling it to resist the waves, with which the returning tide covers it. Irregular ravines or rills are however ploughed up, which as they terminate towards the sea, are shallow; nearer full sea mark, as the land rises in height, they deepen to two or three, in a few instances to four or five feet. In some places there is a space of twenty yards between the rills; in other places they approach so nearly, as almost to unite: they are of great advantage to the soil, for where they are wide and deep, the land is more firm in consequence of its being more completely drained during the ebb.

At some distance from high water mark these rills multiply and communicate with each other, the oozy earth sinks in height, and is in great

part covered with salt water, even when the tide is at the lowest. The new land, so far down as any continued marks of vegetation are discoverable, is called the *saltings*; where the shallow numerous rills converge, and the naked sand appears, it is termed the *chaits*.

Beside these rills numerous pools receive the sea water in the middle of the saltings: these are called *pans*, and are filled with stagnant water and weeds, and are very injurious both to the soil and the air; during the neap tides the sun exhales most of the water from these pans, but the spring tides replenish them before they are quite exhausted. The tenant of these saltings had cut drains from the pans on them to the next rills, and the water having thus an issue from them, the weeds and mud hardly ever failed to fill them up, which rendered these saltings superior to those adjoining.

Mr. Quayle on visiting in 1807 this farm, which is situated between the Malden and Burnham rivers, and presents a face of about a mile to the sea, saw the advantage of embanking the extensive saltings attached to it: the soil outside the old sea wall appeared of the same quality as that within, a marine plant called there crab-weed, which is thought to indicate soundness and fertility of soil, grew luxuriantly on it, and the ground was firm to the foot beyond the wall for a considerable distance.

Besides the usual difficulties, this undertaking had two peculiar to it; the first arose from the necessity of carrying a rivulet, called Asheldon brook, through the wall at a great expense, as it was the only drain for the fresh water of the country of the hundred for some miles; and its regular discharge being of the highest importance to the neighbourhood, on account of the land lying on a dead flat. The marsh bailiffs under the commission of sewers for this level, were well informed and liberal men, and obligingly concurred in giving every aid and information in their power. The other difficulty was caused by a piece of low land of about twenty rods in breadth, bottomed with perfectly liquid mud,

which runs quite through the saltings, at about two hundred yards from the brook, from the old wall in a right line to the sea; which is supposed to have been the original channel of the brook. In crossing this low (as it is called) it was necessary to alter the direction of the wall in order to avoid getting on the chatts, so as that it should form an obtuse angle towards the land; and also to raise earth for the construction of the wall at some distance, that it might not be subject to the subsidence, which was to be expected, if it was formed of the soft materials, which the spot itself afforded.

Early in February, in the following year, a contract was made with two companies of sea-wallers, one of twenty, the other of ten men, for the erection of a new wall in front to the sea, thirty four feet wide at the top, with a slope of two feet for every foot in height at the sea side, and one foot and $\frac{1}{2}$ half at the land side. A ditch running parallel with the wall at the land side, at the distance of twelve feet, was also to be sunk, twelve feet wide at the top, four feet deep, but not to exceed the width of five feet at the bottom to prevent the sides from slipping in.

The men were restricted by the contract from raising any earth at the land side of the wall, except what the ditch yielded, or from raising any within twelve feet at the sea side. In order that more time might be given the wall to settle, it was directed not to be raised above five feet, till the whole was carried to that height, and then the other three feet were to be added. No great danger being apprehended from the impulse caused by any side wind on the lateral embankment, from its being shielded by the adjoining saltings, it was ventured gradually to contract the width of the lateral walls, as they approached the land, from thirty four feet to twenty four feet, the height continuing the same.

For the principal wall the contractors were to receive at the rate of thirty shillings the marsh, rot of twenty-one feet; for the side walls one guinea; barrows, scaffolding, and every other necessary utensil except shovels were

to be found them; and a recompense was to be allowed for filling up the deep rills over which the wall was to be carried, and for extra labour in crossing the low before mentioned. A space being left between the foreland of the new wall marking out and the chatts, sufficient to afford good earth for the wall, the work immediately commenced; sometimes thirty wallers were employed at other times less, but as they worked with spirit, by the beginning of the front wall was nearly completed, a space of about twenty yards being however left at each side of Asheldon brook.

In the mean time a gutter had been cut out of seasoned oak, for the conveyance of this brook under the wall: this was sixty feet in length, seven feet two inches wide, two feet six inches deep in the clear, with an apron eight feet long, and spread eight feet. For several days eight men were employed to prepare the spot for the reception of this gutter, by making a dam or semicircular dyke on the sea side, five feet high, and twelve feet wide at the bottom. In passing the channel which the fresh water had usually taken, it was necessary to construct the dam with more solidity, and stronger than the wall itself, it exceeded thirty feet at the base, was twelve feet high, and was piled and planked internally.

Another slighter dam was made on the land side, meeting that on the sea side, in order to keep off the fresh water from the men when laying the gutter; when they cleared away all the water from the circular space, the bottom was found to be so soft and cozy, that a ten feet pole could without much effort be forced down to the end, it was thought prudent to remove the soft earth, in the direction in which the gutter was to be placed, to the depth of two feet, or two feet and a half, and of the width of twelve feet at the bottom. An equal quantity of the dryest earth on the saltings was then barrowed in, and rammed down as closely as possible with a small mixture of hay: The cills nine inches square of the length of the gutter, being then put down, thirty joints, eight inches wide, and

five inches thick, were dovetailed into them, and the space between the joists, and without the cills, as far as the soft earth had been removed, was closely rammed with the dryest earth and hay, level with the joists.

The studs being next put in, the planking, and the rest of the carpenters' work proceeded without any difficulty. The earth over the gutter, when finished, was rammed in the same manner as at the bottom and sides, the whole width and length of the outfall, till it was level with the splittings, with so much care, that the number of men employed in ramming and stowing the earth was three times that of those borrowing it in. The sea wall was then carried over the gutter in the usual manner. The hay was used merely to prevent this tenacious earth from sticking to the rammers. Piles driven under the gutter, might at first sight, appear to have made the foundation more solid; but it was thought best not to use them, as piles had been found subject to sink unequally on this bottom, which might produce a partial depression of the gutter, and a consequent failure in the due conveyance of the water to the sea.

As the slightest error in construction or position of this gutter might be attended with ruinous consequences not only to the work in hand, but to many upland farms, the greatest caution was used in the operation. The progress was much slower in this part than in any other of the embankment, but as soon as it was finished, one gang of the men soon threw up the sidewalls. By the ninth of November the whole was completely embanked, and one hundred and ten acres were added to the farm, of land, which promised to be equal to most in England in fertility.

That the vegetation of any plants, besides those which nature has suited to a soil saturated with sea water, was not to be expected in such situations, is the opinion of the most intelligent cultivators in Essex; but as different ideas and practices prevailed in other coasts, where recent embankments had been made, Mr. Quayle fenced off about twenty square rods at the eastern end of the newly

gained land, in which he made the experiment of sowing ray grass, clover, wheat and various other seeds and plants; and the result seemed to confirm the opinion of the Essex farmers, as no plant appeared above ground, but white mustard, which vegetated weakly; he thinks however that the experiment should be repeated with other seeds, and with various kinds of manure. The improvement of the land was to be expected chiefly from the effect of rain in washing away the salt and detached marine acid, and of course the more rain that fell, the sooner would this be effected.

When the embankment was completed, one of the wallers was engaged to reside on the farm, and to be constantly on the watch during the winter months to repair any flaw which might happen in tempestuous weather: when any earth was washed from the wall, this man immediately filled up the breach, and was also employed in making good the foreland, where any traces of the old rills were left. For more security the whole foot of the wall was piled and planked throughout the low, and a couple of small break-waters, twelve or fourteen inches high, extending from the wall to the end of the foreland, were added in the most exposed places.

In a few months after being embanked, the new land was sufficiently firm to bear a horse, the rank sea weeds daily disappeared, and not a drop of water stagnated on it; the earth round the rills cracked, and nearly filled without any aid. It was then expected to be fit in a few years to receive the plough, but it seemed more advisable to convert it to pasture, as it was so disposed that fresh water might be led into every division of it.

The embankment, besides its direct advantages, had also that of enabling the old land above it to be more completely drained, both from the subsidence of the new land, and the more perfect cleaning and deepening of the sluices which it admitted.

Mr. Quayle concludes his paper, by acknowledging the advantage he received from the account of Mr.

Harriot's embankment in the 4th vol. of the Society of Arts (which has been inserted in our 24th number) and declaring that it was this led him to engage in the work, which but for it he would probably have never attempted.

Observations.—The circumstance in this paper, which seems most to deserve being pointed out to the attention of the gentlemen who may have similar works in contemplation in this kingdom, is the construction of the large trough for conveying the water of the brook through the bank. Where a trough can carry off the water of a stream, it is evidently a less expensive mode of conveying it through the new enclosure, than that of constructing banks at each side of the stream up to the high ground. In the extensive flats in the vicinity of Belfast, which will in a few years be secured from the sea, if the meritorious example set here in this respect by Mr May, and Mr. Thompison (who lately have so happily succeeded in rescuing near 100 English acres altogether from the waves) be followed as it deserves, several instances will occur where the above information may be useful; as numerous small brooks traverse those flats, which may be easily and cheaply passed through the sea bank in troughs, but which it would be very expensive to embank at both sides. The space left between the bank and the ditch also deserves to be noticed, on account of the security which it gives the bank, as does also the slope given to the bank internally, as well as externally. Mr Quayle's candid acknowledgment of the advantage he derived from Mr Harriot's papers, which concludes his communication, does him so much more credit, as many from a mean and unjust pride pursue a contrary system, and while they avail themselves of the thoughts of others, pretend they acted from old conceptions of their own; but dates and other facts in general betray their turtive pretensions, and expose them to deserved ridicule.

Scheme for preserving the Lives of persons Shipwrecked; by G. Cumberland, esq

Phil. Journal, xxvii. 134.

A few years ago Mr. Cumberland, residing near the sea, at a place called Weston Super Mare, frequently observed extensive masses of the sea weed called tang, which the farmers burn for manure, floating into the hollow coves, on the surface of the most tremendous waves; and forming as it were, a green carpet, that undulating on the broken waves was never submerged, although continually varying its surface; and on which, as on a resting place, birds frequently alighted, or sat to repose themselves, as if on a verdant down.

On a coast so remarkably dangerous, where no boat could land even in comparatively tranquil weather, these *safe rafts* seemed very interesting; and led Mr. Cumberland to the thought, that a raft of this nature might be constructed of other materials, fit, instead of birds to carry men. The result of this was, that it appeared to him, that if each sailor in a man of war had a mattress of cork shavings, and that these mattresses were all linked together by cords, a float capable of landing men safely, even on breakers, would be produced.

Mr. Cumberland on going to Bristol to consult a cork-cutter relative to these mattresses, found that a very moderate weight of cork would support a man, and that cork shavings were then worth only eightpence per bushel, and were sold chiefly for firing, or to make guards for privateers to fill the nettings.

From this it therefore seemed manifest to Mr. Cumberland, that as mattresses are necessary in the navy for the hammocks, and as nothing is dryer than cork, or easier to shape into a thin elastic body, good mattresses might be made of this substance, in a proportion equal to support the weight of a man, and that a mass of them thrown overboard linked together by ties at each corner, where cords might be always attached, would form an extensive raft, cap-

ble of sustaining out of the water an equal number of men; and of conveying them on the tops of the waves, and depositing them safely on shore, or even on the surface of rocks, when the sea retired with the tide.

Rafts of this nature seem to Mr. J. to be much the best, because all others that he had heard of, have his great defect, that they come on shore with too much force, and that he blows they receive either dismount them, or throw off the people; but their wrecks are more dangerous than the rocks they strand on; and that every time they pitch those on them are covered, some of which never may be able to retain their hold or to rise again.

Mr. Cumberland thought it a duty to humanity to lay this project before the admiralty, as with them the power of putting it extensively into practice chiefly exists, but as they did not even think fit to acknowledge his letter on the subject, we must conclude that they have treated it with the same neglect, with which they almost always treat proposed improvements, if not originating among themselves, or backed by irresistible patronage.

An Account of the Method of manufacturing Salt at Moutiers, in the department of Mont-Blanc, by M. Berthier, Mine Engineer.

Continued from p. 216, No. XXVII.

As the rope shed is used one part of the year for collecting the salt, and even when used for graduation, it does not receive any brine weaker than 4°, the cords last a long time. There still remain three fourths of those that were put up fifteen years ago, so that it is probable that the whole will not want renewing in less than fifty years.

A boiler lasts fifteen or even eighteen years if it be taken care of, and the scales are not allowed to grow too thick, but are knocked off every twelve or fifteen boilings, in order to repair the bottom.

The persons employed are; a director, who corresponds with the committee; a general overseer; an overseer of the springs and buildings; a foreman of

the boiling house; a storekeeper and salesman; several clerks, gradulators; boilers, three to each furnace; carpenters, smiths, labourers, porters, wood-landers, carmen, &c. in all about 112 individuals, almost all of whom receive monthly salaries.

The salt is sold at one franc 60 cent. (16d.) per myriagramme (20lb.) The sulphate of soda accumulates in the warehouse, and is sold for whatever the buyer will give for it. The glass-houses at Annecy buy some of the last schelot and scales, but at a very low price; so that the salt is the only productive substance, and yields 160,000 francs (about 6,666l.) a year. The expenses are 30,000 fr. (1500l.) for 7000 steres of billet wood, and 8000 fr. (333l.) for purchasing iron, building materials, &c. besides the wages of the persons employed.

If the brine were evaporated immediately from the spring, it would require seventeen steres of wood to obtain ten myriagrammes of salt, the value of which would not be more than a quarter of the cost of the fuel. It is therefore absolutely necessary to graduate the brine. The manner in which this is done has been described above; but some other trials have been made to obtain the same end, of which hereafter. In whatever manner, however, the brine is concentrated, the free exposure of it to the air is inevitable; and from this circumstance there results a very great inconveniency, which has not as yet been attempted to be removed. This inconveniency consists in formation of the sulphate of soda, which takes place in consequence of the reciprocal decomposition of muriate of soda and sulphate of magnesia when the temperature is near the freezing point. This effect is certain: it is agreeably to the well-known principles of chymistry, and has been particularly observed at Moutiers. It is therefore known that in cold weather the salt that is obtained is less pure than at other times, and that the mother water is then more abundant on account of the muriate of magnesia being augmented in quantity. When this decomposition is complete, which perhaps takes place in the coldest days of winter, the brine will contain for every 100 parts of muriate of soda, as far as 22 of sulphate of soda, and

6 of muriate of magnesia, instead of 15 of the one and 3 of the other, which it holds when it first comes from the spring.

The consequences of this decomposition is very prejudicial to the establishment. 1°. A part of the muriate of soda is decomposed and lost. 2°. There is obtained only a very bad salt which effloresces in dry weather, and is deliquescent when the air is moist. 3°. A great quantity of wood must be used in the evaporation, which must be carried on slowly in order to collect the muriate of magnesia in the mother water.

As they do not know at Moutiers any preventive against these inconveniences, the method of graduation by frost is rejected, and the bad salt made in winter is mixed with the good salt made in summer. By this means they are deprived of a great help, as in winter when evaporation goes on so slowly, large basins exposed to the frost would assist in keeping the boilers employed if the method of purifying the brine were known.

There is a very simple and cheap method of performing this, which was discovered by Gren, and succeeds completely. It consists in making a cream with quicklime, and mixing this cream with the brine. All the salts of magnesia are immediately decomposed, the magnesia is precipitated; sulphate and muriate of lime are formed, and then this last salt reacts upon the sulphate of soda, and decomposes it in its turn, so that the brine contains only sulphate of lime and muriate of soda; the quantity of the latter is even slightly augmented. But in order that this purification should be complete, it is necessary that the brine should contain a peculiar proportion between the sulphate of soda and the muriate of magnesia, which is nearly that of 100 to 55. Unfortunately this proportion does not exist in the brine from the springs, and it would still retain, after the lime had been added, about three fourths of the sulphate of soda that it previously contained. This could not be separated unless muriate of magnesia could be obtained, which is however very possible; but it would be useless, as the brine, if the deliquescent salts and muriate of magnesia

were got rid of, would yield a salt as fine as any in trade. Nothing, therefore, hinders the graduation by frost.

It has been tried several times, both at Constance and Moutiers, to concentrate brine by the heat of the sun, by exposing it in basins; surrounded with iron plates in order to reverbate the heat upon the liquid, and by covering it during rain. At Salin the brine has been raised to the top of a precipice, and let to run down its face, while covered with faggots, but neither of these methods was successful. Insulated sheds have therefore been again taken up, and a great step towards perfection has been made by the invention of the rope shed, which evaporates the brine much swifter than the others. The ropes being small, close together, equally distributed, and regularly arranged, the whole length of the building, it happens of consequence, 1, that the brine runs down them in an uniform manner; 2, it is spread over a large surface; 3, it is distributed in thin layers round the chords; 4, it is not exposed to be blown away by the wind; 5, and lastly, the air circulates freely and is renewed with the utmost facility. From these favourable circumstances there can be evaporated area of saturated brine, and in ordinary weather, 68 myriagrammes (scores) of brine, or 685 decim. cub. per metre running measure, in 24 hours, while it would require the most favourable weather to produce this effect in the faggot sheds, which are only used to concentrate weak brine. The maximum is 70 myriagr. or 700 decimet. cub. in 24 hours in a metre running meas. or a surface of between eight or nine metres square. The sheds with faggots have many essential defects. 1°. Whatever care is taken of the arrangement of the faggots they cannot be uniformly distributed; so that in some places the graduation of the brine does not take place; in others it goes on properly, and in others the brine is blown away by the wind. 2°. The brine running upon them from a single gutter placed lengthways, it only occupies a very small portion of the breadth of the shed, and, of course, does not offer so large a surface to the wind as the ropes.

4. and lastly, when the thorns become covered with a thick crust of sulphate of lime, they form a solid mass, the graduation does not go on well, and the shed is in very great danger of being blown down the first term of wind.

The rope shed is then, in every respect, preferable to those with fagots. It has as yet not been employed in any salt work but that of Moutiers. Experience also confirms this theory, and has shewn that with a shed of the same size, twice as much brine can be evaporated by the former as by the latter. Its only defect is, that it is expensive to erect (that at Moutiers cost 30,000 francs, or 1250*l.*) but it appears that it did not require much repairing. At present, it is not used in graduate weak brine for fear the cords should rot too fast; but it is probable that a varnish might be prepared which would cover them and preserve them from this destruction.

In the present state of affairs, which does not admit of the purification of the graduated brine, the management of the fire is properly conducted. A brisk fire is necessary at first because less fuel is consumed by it, in evaporating the same quantity of water, than with a small fire; it also gets through the evaporation quicker, and separates along with the schelots, &c. about a fifth of the sulphate of soda, which probably would not happen if the evaporation were conducted slowly by a low temperature. Indeed, it occasions a loss of about 1-45th of the muriate of soda, which goes off along with the schelot and scales; but this inconveniency depends upon the impurity of the brine. When the schelot is separated, a small fire becomes indispensable in order to separate the greatest part of the muriate and of the sulphate of magnesia which is left in the mother water, and which

would crystallise along with the muriate of soda if the boiling were continued.

It may be seen by the analysis of the products as given in this paper, that the precipitation of the sulphate of soda diminishes considerably immediately after the schelotage, that it afterwards augments gradually on account of the water being saturated with it, and that it is entirely separated before the evaporation is ended. The last made salt contains only sulphate of magnesia; that made towards the latter end of a boiling contains besides this 1-10th of its weight of sulphate of soda. The mixt salt must contain at least as much of foreign matters.

It follows from this, that the attraction of the different salts is considerably augmented by the temperature, and that the mixture of them when they are precipitated, depends much more on the heat employed in the evaporation, than on its promptitude; so that the collection of the salt upon the ropes yields a much purer salt, than that of the boilers, although it is made in one fourth or fifth of the time.

This method, besides the advantage of saving one half of the fuel, is therefore to be recommended for the treatment of brine containing several salts; but in this case care must be taken to raise a large quantity of brine at a time, and to stop the evaporation at the precise moment when the foreign salts begin to precipitate in too large a proportion. This point of time is usually indicated by the appearance which the brine assumes. It becomes thick, viscous, and what is called fat, the mixt salts that it contains deliquesce on account of the muriate of magnesia being among them, and will not crystallise, but yield only a saline mass which is very difficultly dried.

To be Continued.

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Rivington's annual Register for 1795. 18s.

NOTICE OF A BOOK TO BE PUBLISHED.

The Rev. Dr. Dickson is publishing by subscription, a Narrative of his sufferings, privations and afflictions, during more than three years and seven months confinement and exile, on the presumption of his being accessory to the Insurrection in Ulster, 1798. Authentic documents will be inserted respecting the principal circumstances, from official papers, and the records of the Synod of Ulster, 8vo. 10s.

MONTHLY RETROSPECT OF POLITICS.

"NEITHER to inflame, nor to lull into apathy," was our original promise. How far we have fulfilled our pledge, we leave to be determined by the pages of our Political Retrospect. It has not been our aim to introduce declamation on imaginary grievances, but to give from time to time a dispassionate view of the alarming situation in which we are placed, and to lend our aid to rouse, if possible, the people to a sense of the awful crisis, which is impending. For the more fully our situation is previously contemplated, the better we shall be prepared to choose the proper line for acting, when the crisis shall arrive. Forewarned of the danger, we are in a better state to prepare for safety. Those who are the most confident in fancied prosperity are generally the most alarmed and timid in the hour of danger, while foresight and a prudent anticipation of the future, prepare for the danger, and prevent the despair which often follows an improvident and thoughtless security. To reform, we are decidedly friendly. Things have arrived at that state, that reform must take place. The friends of peace and stability earnestly desire it may be brought about by peaceable means, and by a more general illumination of the public mind, lest "the reform with a vengeance," predicted by the great Lord Chatham should overwhelm us in common ruin. It has been the aim of the Political Retrospect to inspire a high toned morality, and point out virtue, as the proper basis of all reform, and especially to show, that the people to insure virtue in their

governors, must themselves be virtuous. Politics are too seldom contemplated in this point of view. The people too readily shift the blame on their rulers, who mostly are only the index which points out the state of public morals, while the people are really the moving springs of virtue, or of vice. To secure the benefits of a just and good government, the people must become virtuous, independent, and raised above the selfish and interested motives which too frequently convert this fair world into a scene of contention, and of each preying, or attempting to prey on his neighbour, when every one for himself, and few disinterestedly for the welfare of the public, is the prevailing motive for action. Rulers cannot be more severely blamed than others for following this almost all prevailing motive. Let the people begin the reform in themselves, and rulers will no longer find it their interest to be dishonest. But without laying the basis of public virtue, and of reform on the broad solid foundation of private virtue, there may be a change of rulers, and even a total change of forms, and yet, the inherent defects of vice will remain. For want of laying the foundation in private virtue, and in the gradual enlightening and improvement of the mass of the people, the French rapidly passed through the career of reform and revolution into anarchy, and subsequently into despotism. Enfeebled by the vices of their old government, and by their own vices, they had not strength of principle to support them and restrain them within the due and proper

bounds of a salutary beneficent reform. A few leaders were enlightened, but the mass of the people were uninformed.

They are the truest friends to their country, who incessantly labour to impress the necessity of virtuous principle, and on this foundation seek to inspire just and liberal sentiments as to the necessity of reform both private and public. It is of the highest importance, and is most likely to conduce to the public safety, that the people should become enlightened, and know their rights. Fortified by a knowledge of the extent of their rights, and by a virtuous principle restraining from transgressing the boundaries of justice, men will assert their claims with calmness, and a dignity inspired only by a sense of propriety. A people truly enlightened never were ferocious, while ignorance, or imperfect knowledge has always been dangerous. The first step towards producing salutary reform is to gradually enlighten the public mind by candid appeals to their reason and common sense, and the principles of common honesty. Appeals to their passions are dangerous. They should be especially incited, "on reason," and on reason only, "to build resolve." This only is "the pillar of true dignity in man."

Peculation in all its forms has met in the *Belfast Magazine* decided disapprobation, and the attempts to unmask this hydra have been frequent. But on this point also it is necessary to recur to the principle of individual virtue. Too generally

"Each thinks his neighbour makes too free,

Yet likes a slice, as well as he."

Peculators on the smaller scale have no right to blame more elevated speculators. Mankind also sometimes too readily indulge in a false compassion at the expense of a strict sense of justice, and with a misplaced generosity too easily acquit the delinquent. Hence vice loses its abhorrence, and the speculator is received again into the circle of his former acquaintance, and into the free intercourse of the world without the stamp of disapprobation being sufficiently impressed

on him, to show to himself his own turpitude, and to deter others from the commission of similar crimes. The ease with which speculators are permitted to enjoy their former station in society is a proof of the too great relaxation of morals among us. If the strictness of justice is remote from unreasonable severity, it is also inconsistent with that laxity of construction, which sets vice free from one of its greatest restraints, and absolves from the force of public shame.

The state of the finances, and of commercial credit has lately received a violent shock. For the low state of the latter the reader is referred to the commercial report. The crisis which occasioned the death of Abraham Goldsmidt, is perhaps as alarming an event to the government of this country, as the expulsion of our armies from Spain and Portugal, which may now be very shortly expected. Abraham Goldsmidt is a Jew, who lately shot himself on account of the loss he was likely to sustain by the last loan, for which he and Sir Francis Baring, recently deceased, were the joint contractors. These two men may be considered as standing at the head of what has been called the moneyed interest. The moneyed men have done very great injury to Britain. These men for the sake of gain supplied Pitt, and his feeble successors with money to carry on seventeen years of destructive and ruinous warfare, for while they could borrow with facility, they regarded very little the burdens of the people, or the means of future payment. These men on the Stock Exchange gave the yell of war in a loud buzz, on the failure of Lord Lauderdale's negotiation for peace in 1806. These men raised immense private fortunes on the dilapidated and gradually sinking finances of the country, weighed down by a most oppressive load of taxation, and a rapidly depreciating circulation of paper currency. While every man in the country lost from 15 to 20 on his capital by this depreciation; the holders of bank stock nearly doubled their shares, bank stock having risen after the bank was relieved from paying in specie, from

37, to 273, per cent. These men were the alarmists who so considerably contributed to lower the tone of public spirit in the country, and while they thought themselves snug, incessantly cried out, that all was well, and lessed that *happy* state of things, and praised that constitution which enabled them to live in luxury, while the middle classes were bowed under the weight of intolerable burdens. By a law of our nature no part of the body can long suffer without every part of the frame being forced to sympathize with the diseased part, and so in the body politic, these great monied men now have their trial of suffering. In the words of Gray, that exquisite delineator of the passions,

To each his suff' rings; all are men,
Indemned alike to groan;
The tender for another's pain,
The unfeeling for his own."

Gray beautifully describes the effects of adversity,

Thou tamer of the human breast,
Bound in thy adamant chain,
We proud are taught to taste of pain,
And purple tyrants vainly groan
With pangs unfelt before, unpitied and alone."

It has been endeavoured to represent the large discount to which omnium fello, or to which the various kinds of stocks given by the contractors for the last loan were reduced, as owing to the machinations of rivals in the money market, bearing hard against the contractors. But we must look deeper for the source of this distress, or to account for the rate falling from 6 to 10 per cent on the terms at which the contract was made. The extremely low rate of private credit, called for large sums of money to aid those who were sinking under the pressure of mercantile distress arising from the effects of war, and our exclusion from the continent. Consequently money was in the market to lay in stock; there were many sellers, few purchasers. The report of the Bullion committee* had raised a

well grounded panic, and pointed out in forcible, and we think incontrovertible terms the dangers of the system of paper, and the actual depreciation, which, notwithstanding all the attempted glosses to the contrary has taken place. The depreciation is now acknowledged on high authority. The difficulty of raising another loan, will be forcibly felt on the meeting of parliament; expenditure must be lessened, and the crisis is rapidly approaching, when it is highly probable more money cannot be raised by loan, and in such a case the war cannot be carried on as heretofore. Government is fully aware of the insuperable difficulty, but in the mean time, the hireling prints are exerting every nerve to continue the popular delusion, of which this war in its various stages has been so productive. They now tell us of the system of taxation during the two last quarters having produced largely. The collectors of taxes both in Great Britain and Ireland, have been stimulated to great exertions in getting in the taxes. In Ireland the additional window tax of 50 per cent, has been rigorously exacted, and in Britain the tax-gatherers have not been idle. By the operation of the legacy tax, and the stamp duty on deeds of transfer in that country, it is calculated that once in every 20 years, one year's rental of the entire landed property of the nation will pass into the hands of government. It is impossible to discover on any ground of just reasoning, how increased and successful taxation can prove the wealth

of our paper system. The following were the members;

F. Horner, esq.—H. Thornton, esq.—
W. Huskisson, esq.—H. Parnell, esq.—
P. Grenfell, esq.—W. Dickinson, esq.—
T. Thomson, esq.—W. Sharp, esq.—J.
Abercrombie, esq.—Rt. Hon. G. Teirney.
Rt. Hon. R. B. Sheridan.—Lord Temple.
A. Baring, esq.—J. Bradshaw, esq.—Rt.
Hon. C. Long.*—G. Johnstone, esq.—D.
Giddy, esq.—M. Doriens, esq.—W. Manning, esq.*—Rt. Hon. S. Perceval.*—J.
L. Foster, esq.—T. Brand, esq.

This committee was appointed last session of parliament. Their report has developed the mystery and insecurity of

Those marked thus * are stated to have been in the minority on the divisions of the committee; Lord Temple never attended, and Sheridan only once.

and prosperity of a nation: yet this barefaced imposition is attempted to be played off, and such is the infatuated cullibility of the people, it meets with success with many. No deception is too gross for the unthinking million, or even for those who assume to be possessed of the powers of discrimination, but who nevertheless are the dupes to their prejudices.

This cullibility is the result of the state of modern manners, the effect of luxury, by which sincerity and sturdy principle are softened down into a supple pliancy very nearly akin to hypocrisy. The French courtiers thought all was lost when Roland appeared as minister without buckles in his shoes, because the practice was contrary to the etiquette of the court. Many now lest they should be mistaken for reformers, suit the cut of their opinions to the fashions of the times. The ancient character of independence seems in danger of being lost. Few like Andrew Marvel are contented to pick their mutton bone, and preserve their independence. Modern manners are well satirized in the last number of the *Edinburgh Review*. Do not such characters daily present themselves in every place of resort both for pleasure and business?

"I here is a set of well dressed prosperous gentlemen—clean civil personages, well in with people in power—delighted with every existing institution—and almost with every existing circumstance."—These are not the men of stubborn stuff, whom Virtue by her discipline of self denial forms into the incorruptible patriots who are instrumental in preserving their country in the hour of danger. In the present crisis, where are we to look for the preservers of a tottering state?

The last anniversary of their national independence has been celebrated in the United States of North America, very splendidly by the republican party, who by their civic feasts, and the toasts given at those meetings wished decidedly to mark their sentiments, and to manifest that the spirit of liberty was still cherished in full vigour among them, while the federalists by their luke-warmness showed an indifference to the soul-cheering

principles of independence. They did not actually oppose, but they discovered great coldness and want of animation. The federalists appear to be biassed by their commercial views of which Britain forms the centre and prefer foreign trade, to agriculture, and an extension of domestic manufactures. The republican party are jealous of independence, and are said by their opponents to be attached to French interests, though probably without just cause, as although complaining of the conduct of the British government towards them, they manifest no inclination to be the slaves of France. They prefer an American interest to either French interest, or a British interest. Their newspapers on both sides of the question are extremely deficient in decorum, and in the language of good manners towards their opponents. Our transatlantic brethren appear even worse than ourselves in their manner of conducting controversies, and the two parties both in speech and print abuse each other in terms inconsistent with that decency which ought still to be observed between those whose opinions differ. It augurs ill of the civilization of any country, when abuse is substituted to argument.

A meeting of the freeholders of the county of Meath, was held at Trim in which an address to the king was agreed to, complaining of improvident expenditure without any sincere and effectual measure of retrenchment, and of a harassing system of taxation, without receiving the benefits promised at the Union. It is pleasing to see a revival, however faint of spirit in the Irish nation, and an attention to the affairs of the empire. Although in the present case the expression of public sentiment has not been as strong, as the alarming state of public affairs requires. At the conclusion of the meeting, the Earl of Fingal moved a vote of thanks to Lord Wellington for his recent victory. Prudence might have dictated to wait until the issue of the business was ascertained, but in popular assemblies there is often too great a liability to act on the spur of the moment, and to compromise a condemp-

ation of part of a system by ill-weighed praises bestowed on another part.

The county of Mayo has honourably come forward with a petition to parliament, in favour of Catholic emancipation. Few now openly oppose this measure, and as a proof of the progress justice is making, its opponents are forced to mask their views by conceding the propriety, but requiring terms to quiet suspicion. If Catholics relinquished foreign nomination for their bishops of their own accord, it might be an acceptable concession, and be the means of breaking one of their spiritual fetters, but they themselves should be judges in the case. Conscience ought not to be forced. He grants nobly, who grants freely. Conditions always imply suspicion, and lessen the obligation. The present mitigation of opposition now almost restricted to a question of terms shows the reluctant retiring of prejudice to its last hold.

A meeting of the freeholders of Kent was also held on the 22d inst. when the following petition to the house of commons was voted.

"We the inhabitants of the county of Kent, in full county meeting assembled, conscious of the rights we possess, of addressing and petitioning your honourable house upon all public affairs, and impelled by a high sense of the duty we owe to ourselves and to our country, beg leave to lay before you our opinions and sentiments on the present defective state of the representation of the people.

"To the wisdom and justice of the original design of convening in parliament the representatives of the people, to deliberate and co-operate with the sovereign and the peers upon every question of national concern, we give our unqualified approbation; but when we take into our consideration the decay of some Boroughs, once prosperous and well peopled, the rise and flourishing conditions of others, formerly of little note; when we reflect upon the effects of the heavy and insupportable expense of elections, which closes the doors of your honourable house to many of the best friends of their country, and robs it of their faithful service; when we think of these things, we are of opinion that your honourable house is at this time, by no means a fair representation of the people; and from the manner in which a large portion of the

individual members obtain and secure their seats in your honourable house, we cannot but infer that that high and sacred office, intended for the public service, is frequently sought for and procured by unconstitutional means, and is too often perverted from its original design, and rendered subservient to private ends. To this cause we ascribe the greatest part of the national calamities we now have to deplore. The mean principles, and narrow views which have too long governed the councils of the cabinet, the false ambition and little intrigues of its members, the continuance of a system of expenditure lavish beyond example; the many disgraceful expeditions, in which the blood and treasure of our country have been too prodigally wasted, the decisions of your honourable house in direct opposition to the general sentiments of the nation, the unwillingness hitherto evinced by your honourable house, to promote inquiry into, or correct abuses in the representation, an unwillingness which cannot fail to excite our distrust and to diminish the respect we owe to the name and functions of your honourable house. And we deplore particularly one instance of this unwillingness of which we complain, in your rejection of a motion made in the last Sessions of Parliament, by one of the Members of the County of Herts—as that motion, had it been adopted by your Honourable House, must necessarily have brought before your Committee a full inquiry into the present defective state of the Representation of the People, and thereby have led to a substantial Reform in the Commons House of Parliament, so essential to the salvation of the state, by restoring to us a free Constitution, that inestimable inheritance, transmitted to us by the wisdom and integrity of our ancestors.

"The times demand this open avowal of our sentiments, and in the language employed to convey them we intend no disrespect; though we are persuaded that no words can be too strong to express our feelings upon this occasion. Therefore, we most earnestly entreat your Honourable House to undertake, before it is too late, in a true and cordial spirit, the measure of Reform, upon principles which, by conciliating the affections of the people, and long restoring to your Honourable House its due weight and character, may rescue our country from domestic discord, and secure it from the foreign foe, give stability to the Throne, and perpetuate the Constitution."

The mover of the petition exp-

phatically declared that a change of system, and not of ministers solely, was absolutely essential to the well-being of the country. The freeholders gave a good lesson to representatives. They directed the petition should be presented only by Filmer Honeywood, one of their members, as the other, Sir Edward Knatchbull had declined to promise to support it. Sir Edward was closely and spiritedly questioned by his constituents. There would be more virtue in the representative body, if electors thus faithfully discharged their duty. If the example of the men of Kent calling their representative to account for his conduct became general, much good would be done. In vain the people complain of corrupt representatives, if they themselves from timidity, indolence, or a fear to disoblige landlords, shrink from a spirited discharge of their own duty.

The common council of Dublin have unanimously announced their intention of celebrating another jubilee in honour of the Queen entering on the 50th year of her reign. Thus they hope to relieve the distresses of starving manufacturers. Such eleemosynary aid never did afford permanent relief to trade. It only tends to introduce profusion among those called the higher ranks, and servility among the poor, as donatives among the Romans marked real degradation of manners, and the decline of the empire. One of their orators declared that the last jubilee did more good, than ever was effected by patriotism. Debasing and degrading sentiment! They thanked both their sheriffs, although on the subject of the aggregate meeting, their conduct had been directly opposite. On their proceeding to discuss the Union, the Lord Mayor entered and dissolved the meeting. If they are resolved to do good, their patriotism must be of a finer texture than their past conduct gives reason to expect. They must rise from local politics to a much more comprehensive system, if they aspire to the venerable character of enlightened patriotism, and true independence.

It may probably have been remarked by our readers that domestic politics

occupy the largest share of our retrospect. Is not this right? They more intimately concern us; speculation and corruption, our internal enemies, are likely to do us more injury than our external foes. United at home and cemented attached and by reform, in vain should we be assailed by the arms or arts of "Audacious France." Such is our apology for devoting so many pages to our domestic situation, in which an unceasing appeal is made to display the highly important benefits of reform and to stir up the people to behold their true interests.

The Cortes of Spain have at length assembled, and their debates appear to partake something of the popular form. Though called so late, we earnestly wish it may yet be in their power to benefit their country, but time is necessary to see into the development of their views and characters. In one respect they have made a good beginning by adopting a self-denying regulation that no member of the present or any future Cortes shall, during their function or for one year afterwards, accept of any employment, pension, distinction or favour from the executive government.

Notwithstanding the highly vaunted victory of Busaco, affairs in Portugal do not wear a more promising aspect. They who recollect the deceptions so frequently practised, by which the horrors of General Moore's retreat in Spain were so long withheld from the public, and by which the battles of Vimiera and Talavera, were magnified into glorious victories, notwithstanding at the latter, the field and the military hospital were so speedily abandoned, will hesitate before they give full credence as to the extent of the victory of Busaco. The forebodings of evil will be still increased, when we find that notwithstanding this boasted victory, Lord Wellington continues his retreat, after evacuating Coimbra, which more recent accounts state to have been recaptured by the British. If by fighting a battle a retreat is secured, and the army reimbarked, the friends to humanity will ask what advantage can accrue from such a waste of valour and such a profusion

of blood and suffering? To send troops on repeated expeditions, and in the end to have no other cause of rejoicing than that a part of them has been gotten off, is a most improvident waste of resources and a cruel addition to the calamities of war. In the mean time, every exertion is used by our public prints to put a fair gloss on the state of things, till Time, that great developer of events, shews the real situation, and then as in the turning of the magic glass to prevent reflection, attempts are made to turn the public mind hastily to some other subject, and thus the delusion is perpetuated, and to prevent reflection by every artifice is put out, to prevent the people from examining into their state, and profiting by the lessons of past distressing events.

The remarks made at the close of the last retrospect on the Lancastrian school establishing in this town drew forth some angry remarks signed Solon. Whatever of argument was contained in that paper is published in this number, and so far the rights of free discussion are maintained. Whatever abuse against the writers whose opinions Solon attacks, has been most suppressed. We promised to permit free discussion, but in our work, the bounds of decorum must not be transgressed by personal abuse, which altogether irrelevant in pointing out errors or supposed errors. Railing is not argument, and writers greatly mistake, when they suppose they promote their cause by abusing their opponents. The writer of the remarks in the last retrospect on mature reflection finds cause to retract the former sentiments he advanced. He is well pleased to find however that a second story is to be erected, as by this means, the room will be allowed for the old school. He still thinks there was defect in the original plan by rendering it too expensive and that much might have been saved, by making it economy the first principle in building. When application is made to the public for aid to an institution however, praise-worthy, all may at once see alike and some reasonable objections may be started: and it is coming to answer such objections as they be made coolly and without ran-

cour, using sound arguments if the case admit of them, but mild expressions. The opposite practice of abuse and attributing motives to their opponents, at the mere fancy of the writer is too common and in our view requires to be marked with decided reprobation.

In the present instance, if the wishes of the writer of the retrospect as far as regarded himself, had been gratified, he would have printed Solon's letter entire, to show how little abuse supports an argument, and how little he felt himself annoyed by the affected attempts at wit. But the pages of the magazine could not be conveniently spared for this exhibition, or for the reply, which must necessarily have accompanied. Besides such a precedent would have countenanced a practice which we wish all combatants in our pages should avoid. It is pleasing to hear that another Sunday School has been opened, and conducted in Belfast, by a public spirited individual, on the Lancastrian plan, and that upwards of seventy boys attend. Those smaller establishments are likely to be productive of much good. In their unity of design, which so essentially contributes to stability, is more easily preserved. In more extensive establishments supported by large subscriptions, independence is often bartered for support. The writer of this article is strongly impressed with the advantages of individual exertion on a small scale, even when general co-operation is not to be expected. Much good may thus be done by a few in small villages, or situations in the country.

DOCUMENTS.

EXAMINATION OF W. M'KENZIE.

Continued from p. 237. No. XXVI.

Q. Had you any knowledge from that book, or otherwise, why those five payments were selected as the particular payments, the receipts of which appeared to be lost?

A. They were selected as the result of the investigation I have stated, and I wish it to be distinctly understood, that my cause of knowledge respecting the five payments that were selected, arose out of that extract, which was made from the general account before described.

Q. Upon Mr. Duffin's obtaining money from the board for looms, where are the receipts lodged.

A. In the Linen Office.

Q. Are you aware that Mr. Duffin made any enquiry at the Linen Office, respecting those five receipts?

A. I do not know.

Q. If any doubt of payment of those receipts had existed, could not that doubt have been removed by a reference to the Linen Office?

A. I take it for granted it could.

Q. When Mr. Duffin found those receipts were missing, did he not mention how they came to be missing.

A. I understood the receipts in question had never come forward, and that therefore the value of them was due to Mr. Duffin, of which he had not a doubt at the time.

William Mackenzie.

Sworn before me the 9th July, 1810.

M. Fitzgerald.

One of the trustees of the Linen and Hempen Manufactures.

No. 8.

Examination of Mr. Hans Peebles, taken before a Committee of the Trustees of the Linen and Hempen manufactures, appointed to take into consideration the 36th Report of the Commissioners of Accounts, at a Meeting of the said Committee, held on Saturday, the 7th of July 1810.

Q. Were you employed by Mr. Duffin in the year 1808, in examining the linen board cash book, and making an extract thereout of his receipts and payments relative to his loom account?

A. I was.

Q. What was the object of making that extract?

A. Mr. Mackenzie had told Mr. Duffin that he thought his cash was short, and that more money had been paid by Mr. Duffin at foot of his female-loom account than he had received.

Q. What was the result of the investigation you made at that time?

A. That there were bills accepted for, and paid by Mr. Duffin to loom-makers, for which there were no correspondent entries of receipts.

Q. Was there any reference to the Linen office to check the account you made out of receipts that were missing?

A. I do not recollect there was.

Q. Did you make out the extract which shewed the missing receipts from the book you call the Linen Board cash book alone, or had you reference to any former, or other book?

A. I recollect no other, but the Bill book.

Q. When you totted the extract you made from the general account, do you recollect what sum appeared due to Mr. Duffin?

A. The amount struck me to be about £300.

Q. Do you recollect how many payments there were without corresponding receipts?

A. I do not.

Q. Do you recollect the periods of the account you undertook to examine?

A. I do not remember the period from which the examination commenced, but I recollect it was carried down to May 1808, the period when it was actually made; I am sure, at all events, it included the general cash book lying before the Committee, commencing 1st May, 1807.

Q. Did Mr. Duffin ever mention to you that receipts had been stolen from him, or that a clerk had run away from him?

A. Never.

Q. Did you ever hear that a clerk had ran away from him?

A. I recollect hearing such a report—it must have been more than five years ago when such an event happened, for have been that time in the hall myself and it was before I came to it.

Q. Did you make out any list from the extract which was formed from the general account, of the particular bills for which receipts did not appear?

A. No, I did not.

Q. Did you assist Mr. Duffin in making out any such list?

A. I don't recollect that I did.

Q. Are you aware that Mr. Duffin ever made out such list?

A. I know that he was in error in his account, and he told me he had found out the cause of it, namely, that some receipts for loom makers were either not received, or were mislaid, and that he would write for others.

Q. Was the extract, which you made from the general account, drawn in your hand writing?

A. The greater part of it was.

Q. You have not got that extract?

A. I have not.

Q. Did Mr. Duffin mention the names of the persons, from whom receipts were supposed not to have been received?

A. He did; he mentioned three or four.

Q. Do you, from your own knowledge

now why Mr. Duffin selected any particular names?

A. I do not.

Q. Did Mr. Duffin ever mention that he had written for duplicate receipts?

A. No—I never had any conversation with Mr. Duffin until March last in Canaan, where he stated to me that it was reported in the North that he had received money for the same looms twice—he spoke as if he felt hurt by the report:—said it was a malicious report, and being soon after interrupted, our conversation ended.

Hans Peebles.

sworn before me the 10th of July, 1810.

John Stewart.

one of the Trustees of the Linen and Hempen Manufactures.

No. 9.

Further Examination of Mr. Wm. Mackenzie, taken before a Committee of the Trustees of the Linen and Hempen Manufactures; appointed to take into consideration the 36th Report of the Commissioners of Accounts, at a meeting of said committee, held on the 19th day of July, 1810.

Q. You have written a letter to this Committee, bearing date the "9th of July, 1810," wherein you state that "having been the original cause and adviser of Mr. Duffin's conduct, in the affair of the duplicate Receipts, you were anxious that the Committee, now sitting upon his conduct, should be pleased to examine you further on the subject, in order that, you might prove to their satisfaction, that no man ever got into the same kind of dilemma with greater purity of intention." State now what farther evidence you have to give to this Committee on the subject of your examination of the 7th instant.

A. Respecting the duplicate Receipts, which Mr. Duffin is charged with having procured, whereby he got payment for the same items a second time, I feel that the questions as put to me by the Committee of the Board, did not enable me to state so clearly as I ought, that in the early part of the transaction as far as relates to his requiring the Duplicates, no man could possibly act with less intentional fraud. For a series of years many thousands of pounds have been received and disbursed by him for various purposes connected with the objects of the Linen Board, either under its direct or implied instructions; the other and more active duties of his office called him frequently from home. He could not possibly, there-

fore, himself, practice such a system of accounts as would be requisite to steer clear of error, and the Board did not allow him any assistance for such Office purposes—hence no ledger or other book was kept which would have exhibited the state of any particular account, and if such was wanting, it could be sought for, only by extracting from the book that contained the general receipts and payments, Items of Debtor and Creditor of various sums and various dates, which mode, it is obvious, must be liable to error in the most careful hands, and from such an erroneous extract alone, did the Duplicate Receipts originate. In this part of my knowledge of the transaction, I am positive—I saw the extract as made by Mr. Duffin and Mr. Peebles, and it distinctly, though erroneously, appeared to shew, that the actual receipts in question were wanting to repay Mr. Duffin, what I had no doubt at that time was really due to him; and as soon as Mr. Duffin got the duplicates, and the money was handed to me. I entered the transaction in the Cash Book, as now exhibited to you on oath, in these words—"received for mislaid receipts." With this recited entry all my knowledge of the affair ends, but having aided Mr. Duffin in his receipts and payments, for a period of thirteen years, ending December, 1808, and having a sufficient knowledge of the theory and practice of accounts to enable me to judge that his system was necessarily imperfect, from the want of assistance, I have mentioned I have no hesitation in declaring he was more exposed to clerical errors than any public officer I ever heard of; and that these errors were finally to the prejudice of his own funds, I deduce from the fact, that when I handed him over the cash account in December 1808, after including the money had on the duplicates, it did appear that he expended £246 o. 10. more than he had received, and which remains to this hour unaccounted for in any other way. I have great anxiety that my evidence may be so understood by the Committee as to induce them to shape their report so as not to brand the whole transaction, with censure due only to a part of it, and that however subsequent fatality of conduct, as it is rumoured, will draw forth their displeasure, that the Committee will be pleased to allow that the reverse of mercenary corruption has been proved. I have only to add, that I make this

Q. Q.

deposition spontaneously, and without the knowledge of the chief object of it.

Wm. Mackenzie.

Sworn before me, 10th July, 1810.

John Stewart.

One of the Trustees of the Linen and Hampen Manufactures.

Memorial of Mr. Charles Duffin, Inspector General, Presented July 1th, 1810.

TO THE RIGHT HONORABLE AND HONORABLE THE TRUSTEES OF THE LINEN AND HAMPEN MANUFACTURES.

My Lords and Gentlemen.

After more than nineteen years spent in a faithful discharge of the several duties of my office, as your inspector general, it has fallen to my lot to incur your heaviest displeasure, by the commission of an act of unexampled weakness. Enfeebled by the severe attacks of a constitutional gout, I was just rising from the bed of sickness, when I was charged, by the commissioners of accounts, with a seeming fraud upon the funds of your Board. I knew my innocence, but I had no instant recollection of circumstances that could explain the error and in my first horrors, at the very existence of such a charge, on my long unsullied reputation, I seem to have become the prey of temporary derangement, and to have sought to conceal a mere clerical error in account, which would have vanished before an open avowal of it. All my memory of the facts, as they really were, had totally failed me, and anxious to clear my character from a stain that did not belong to it, the distraction of my mind hurried me into a conduct bordering on insanity. I required two men, almost strangers to me, to deny that particular receipts were duplicates; when not only the comparison of them must confute such an assertion, but my own book, as exhibited to you and to the commissioners of accounts, and which I never sought to withhold, declared them duplicates; also, as appears by the original entry of them, standing in those singularly candid words, viz. "*Received for mislaid Receipts.*"

In addition to the above most fortunate entry of the transaction, I would beg leave to call to your attention, the clear and respectable testimony which Mr. McKenzie has given upon the subject, and I trust, that with every unprejudiced mind, I shall stand acquitted of corrupt motives. The subsequent deviations from moral rectitude, I attempt not to justify, but some charitable allowances, I

would fondly hope, will be made for the distraction of a man charged with pecuniary fraud, of a pitiful extent, towards the close of a long and laborious life, of contrary practice.

I might here relate, with truth, the various ways in which my anxious care has contributed to protect, rather than to diminish your funds, but such topics are now unavailing. I feel that the occurrence of so much weakness, originating from that infirmity of body and mind, which I have sometimes felt increasing, and which induced me, in the year 1807, to request your honourable board, to join my son in my commission, which in consideration of my long and faithful services you were kindly pleased to do, and which weakness, the late events have, I may say, hurried to a crisis—speaks forcibly, that the increasing effects of age have rendered me unequal to perform the duties of my office any longer, with advantage to the public or myself; and therefore, I beg leave, in terms of unfeigned respect, to tender you my resignation; and under the cloud that obscures my retirement from the business of the world, some rays of comfort will dart forth, when I reflect, that however imperfect may have been my best endeavours, in all other respects, to serve your honourable Board, yet the transit of a considerable portion of your funds through my hands, has prejudiced, rather than improved my private fortune. I have the honour to be my Lords and Gentlemen, your devoted Servant,

CHARLES DUFFIN.

REPEAL OF THE UNION.

AGGREGATE MEETING.

At an aggregate meeting of the freemen and freeholders of the city of Dublin, convened pursuant to requisition, and held at the royal exchange, on Tuesday, the 18th of September, 1810, Sir James Riddall, High Sheriff, in the chair.

Resolved unanimously, That a committee of nine gentlemen be appointed for the purpose of preparing a petition to his majesty, another to the two houses of parliament, praying a repeal of the act of union.

The committee having been appointed, and the petitions being read—

Resolved unanimously, That the petition to the King's most excellent Majesty, praying a repeal of the union law, be adopted as the petition of the freemen and freeholders of the county of the city of Dublin.

Resolved unanimously—That the peti-

tion to both houses of parliament, praying for the said repeal, be adopted as the petition of this assembly.

Resolved—That a permanent committee, of twenty-one persons, freemen and freeholders of the city of Dublin, be appointed, and hereby entrusted, not only with the care of having the petition presented to his Majesty and to parliament; but with the duty of co-operating with all such other persons as shall seek, by legal and constitutional means, the repeal of the act of union.

Resolved. Unanimously. That our excellent and amiable viceroy, his Grace the Duke of Richmond, has, by the uniform conciliation and wisdom of his conduct, merited the gratitude and thanks of the Irish nation. As a patron of public Institutions as a friend to Irish Manufactures, as an upright chief governor, combining at once, suavity of demeanor with constitutional moderation; his Grace's ministry will be long remembered with affection and esteem by every loyal Irishman.

Resolved unanimously, That we the citizens of Dublin, in aggregate meeting, legally assembled, fully impressed with a sense of his Grace's many virtues, seize with pleasure this public opportunity of returning our grateful acknowledgments to his Grace, and of thus recording our unqualified approbation of his Lieutenantancy in this kingdom.

Sir James Riddall having left the chair, and Robert Shaw, esq. being called there-to.

Resolved unanimously, That the thanks of the aggregate meeting, and the gratitude of the Irish nation, are due to Sir James Riddall, Knight, not only for his polite and dignified conduct this day in the chair, but also, for the uniform patriotism with which he has distinguished his Sheriffacy.

Resolved unanimously, That a piece of plate, of the value of at least, one hundred guineas, be presented to Sir James Riddall, as a small token of the respect and gratitude which his fellow citizens entertain for his integrity, which yielded neither to influence nor unreason in the performance of his public duty.

Signed by order,
FREDERIC W. CONWAY, Sec.

An account similar to the following having appeared in the Evening Herald of Dublin, and afterwards being copied into Cobbett's political register and the statesman; news paper, but without finding its way into either of our provincial

news papers, application was made to an original source for information, and the following communication was sent to us.

On the 12th ult. Major Wallace attended at Banford Green, the seat of Robert J. Nicholson esq. for the purpose of inspecting various corps of yeomen, viz. Waringstown Cavalry, commanded by John Lushington Reilly, esq. Bann infantry commanded by Robert Jaffray Nicholson, esq. and the Scarva Infantry commanded by William E. Reilly, esq.

The Scarva Infantry (whose captain not attending) were commanded by Lieutenant Shegox, arrived on the ground first; shortly after the Bann infantry made their appearance and immediately shewed by their hesitating manner, and loud murmurs, that they were dissatisfied. On being questioned as to the cause of their dissatisfaction, they declared they would not be inspected along with the Scarva infantry because *there were some Roman Catholics* belonging to that corps. Their captain harangued them and deprecated in strong language the fomenting of religious animosities; he ended by saying, he had come to a resolution that any one of them who refused to be inspected with the Scarva infantry, might lay down their arms; immediately the whole threw down their muskets, and the greater part their belts; the whole of the Scarva infantry with the exception of the six Catholics, seeing what the others had done, ran over to them huzzaing. The Waringstown cavalry as if seized with a similar mania, galloped off from their officers and joined the other two corps while the six Catholics left to themselves, and fearful of unpleasant consequences from the intolerant spirit of their fellow soldier, ran to a remote part of the field while two actually leaped the fence that bounded it.

John Lushington Reilly esq. in a strong energetic speech to his corps declared he had been in Germany, Holland and a number of engagements, and never before knew British subjects refuse to obey their officers; that he had seen Protestant and Catholic fight side by side and nobly mingle their blood in the field of honour; that he had never seen any difference made on account of religious profession nor ever heard of it until he witnessed it in this unhappy country, and concluded by saying, that with men who would conduct themselves as they had done he could have nothing further to do; on which they dismounted and laid down their arms.

After the Scarva Infantry left the field, the other two corps (with the exception

of a few of the Bann Infantry who had previously retired) resumed their arms, and underwent the usual inspection, &c. The Scarva Corps having halted at a short distance were afterwards inspected.

Col. Hall attended by previous notice at Banford Green, on the next day of inspection, the 12th instant, where the three corps were again collected. The Colonel addressed them and pointed out to them the impropriety of their conduct, and ended by saying that it was the determination of government to discharge party distinctions, arising from differences in religious sentiment; should any of them persist in their refusal to be inspected with the Scarva Infantry, because there were Roman Catholics among them that they had then full liberty to lay down their arms. On which two of the Bann Infantry (supposed to be ringleaders) on the right of the line, laid down their muskets, &c. which were immediately taken from them, and two others were stripped for refusing to stand forward, when brought to join the Scarva corps. The Brigade then went through their evolutions. Since that day a few others of the Bann Infantry sent in their arms, or were deprived of them on account of their activity in the meeting.

At first view of the foregoing facts it is natural to feel indignant at the intolerance of bigotry evinced by these guardians of their country, and their want of proper subordination to their officers, but on a calm and diligent inquiry, they are more objects of pity. Accustomed as they have always been to look to those in elevated rank for instruction or example, what has been the lesson which some of those have taught them! this self-same lesson of intolerance and system of exclusion which they seem to have so fully imbibed; for if our information be correct, on the formation of some of those corps. Men, Protestants (*Catholics being out of the question*) of unexceptionable character, and in every other respect eligible, were rejected on the *scored ground of them not being Orange men*, and that there was an individual private examination of the respective candidates, to ascertain their having this necessary qualification before they were admitted into the corps. After this, would it not have been cause of astonishment, had they acted differently from what they did! They are to blame, who being possessed of rank and influence, have employed them so successfully in the diabolical work of fomenting religious animosities, which all their endeavours cannot now eradicate. Confusion and shame be upon the heads of the authors of the potent mischief!

In addition to the foregoing account communicated by our correspondent, we are inclined to add our hopes that the spirit of intolerance is gradually losing ground. If too much encouragement were given to party in the formation of any corps, the conduct of the officers on the present occasion appears deserving of commendation. It is only when an error once committed, is obstinately persisted in, that disapprobation should be strongly applied. In the present case we incline to hail the spirit of returning liberality as manifested by the officers of these corps; and actuated by a sincere wish for the welfare of our country, our earnest desire is for the general diffusion of liberality of sentiment and practice.

NOTHING-TO-DO GENTLEMEN.

Our readers will thank us for laying before them the names of some few of that great and important body of men, who are well paid for having *nothing to do*, and are therefore regarded as the *pillars of the state*. It must be a consolation to the people who have to pay the taxes, that in addition to the army and navy who hazard their lives in the defence of their country, there is a powerful phalanx, both in and out of parliament, who are living examples of the excellence of our constitution, since they are maintained for no earthly purpose, but to show its beauty.

We make the following extracts from the first report of the select committee on sine cure offices:

The Right Honourable George Rose, a member of the House, examined.

Are you clerk of the parliament? Yes, I hold the office by a grant from the crown, under a reversion granted to me, on the death of the late Mr. A. Cowper. I succeeded in the year 1789, in the same terms as the grant had been made for many centuries, for two or three lives, to be executed by my myself or Deputy.

By whom have the duties been performed since you held the office? By the Clerk Assistant of the House of Lords, under an appointment from me.

Would any, and what, inconvenience arise from the abolition of your office of Clerk to Parliament? I feel a difficulty in expressing an opinion upon that subject.

Has any inconvenience in point of fact arisen from the office being executed by deputy during the time you have possessed it? I believe not the slightest.

Have you ever been called upon to execute this duty in person? Certainly not.

Mr. Rose delivers in an account of the net receipts of the Clerk of the Parliaments, on an average of the last seven years, amounting to 4946l.

Thomas Davis Lamb, esq. Late Clerk in the Secretary of State's Office, called in and examined.

What are the duties of that office as performed by you? Since my appointment I have not been called upon to perform any.

Are there any duties which you conceive yourself liable to be called upon to perform? I have been told there are duties, but I have never been able to ascertain what they were.

How long have you held the office?—Since the year 1806.

Mr. James William Morrison, called in and examined.

What are the duties performed by the Master of the Mint in person? The Master of the Mint, for some time, has not done any part of the routine business of the office; he signs certain papers, but never attends the office on the routine business.

What are the duties performed in person by the Warden of the Mint? The Warden of the Mint is a check officer upon the Master.

What duties does he perform in person? All the duty is done by a deputy.

What are the duties performed by the Comptroller of the Mint in person? All his duties are performed by deputy.

What are the duties performed by the Surveyor of the Meltings, and Clerk of the Irons? He performs no duty at all personally, he has a regular deputy.

James Macdonald, esq. a Member of the House, examined.

You are one of the Clerks of the Privy Seal? I am.

What duties do you perform in person? None; I execute the office wholly by deputy.

Charles Broughton, esq. from the Secretary of State's Office, called in, and examined.

Is Mr. Goddard, who holds the office of Collector and Transmitter of State Papers in town? No, he is at a distance from London.

What are the duties performed in person by the Collector and Transmitter of State Papers? None whatever.

Are there any performed by deputy?—None whatever.

Were there ever any? Not within my recollection.

Mr. John Steel, called in, and examined.

Do you belong to the Alienation Office? I do.

What office do you hold there? That of Deputy Receiver.

Can you state the duty of the Commissioners? To set the fines on writs of entry and writs of covenant.

Do they execute those duties in person? No, by deputy.

Do they ever attend in person? Never.

What is the nature of the office of Master in Chancery held by Mr. Flood? To administer oaths when called upon so to do.

Does he execute that in person? No, always by deputy, during the time I have been in office, which has been fifteen years.

Has each gentleman a separate deputy? Yes.

Thomas Burton, esq. called in and examined.

What is your office? Secretary to the Board of Excise.

What is the nature of the office of Comptroller General of Accounts in the Excise? To controul and check all the accounts both of charge and discharge, that pass through the hands of the Commissioners and their accountants.

Does he execute that office in person? No, entirely by deputy; he holds his office by patent, to be executed by himself and his sufficient deputy.

Would there be any inconvenience to the public from the deputy altogether performing the duties of the office? I can point out no inconvenience.

George Watson, Esq. called in and examined.

You are the deputy of Lord Camden, in the Exchequer?—I am.

What are the duties the Tellers performed in person? The Teller has no duty of any description whatever; he appoints his deputy.

There are no papers which he is obliged to sign during the continuance of his deputy? No.

Are all the Tellers upon the same footing? I believe they are. In the Sixth Report in the year 1781, it is stated as an absolute acknowledged simple sinecure;—there is no pretence of duty attached to it.

The Most Noble the Duke of Montrose (Earl Graham), called in and examined.

What are the duties of the office of Lord Justice General in Scotland? It is an office the appointment to which is in the Crown; the duties of it I apprehend to be to preside in the Court of Justiciary, either in the Court at Edinburgh, or upon the Circuits, if he thinks it his duty to take his seat in that Court.

Has your Grace ever thought it your duty to take your seat in that Court? I have taken my seat in that Court.

Does your Grace often attend the sitting of that Court? I have not thought myself called upon by my duty frequently to take my seat in that Court.

How often has your Grace sat there?—I have sat once at Edinburgh.

Are these all the duties belonging to the office of Lord Justice General? There are some appointments, I think, which are made by the Justice General. I have not been called upon to execute any other hitherto.

Has any case occurred since your Grace has been Lord Justice General, where you have found it your particular duty to attend in person? There has not.

The most Noble the Duke of Gordon (Earl of Norwich) called in, and examined.

Your grace is keeper of the great seal in Scotland? I am.

What are the duties of that office?—They are to put the great seal to various charters, and other instruments.

Does your grace execute that office personally, or by deputy? I execute it as it always has been done, by deputy.

What is the salary of the deputy?—That is a matter of private arrangement between him and myself; he has no salary paid by the public.

There are no references made to your grace, by your deputy? There are not.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Buckinghamshire called in, and examined.

Your Lordship is Clerk of the Common Pleas Office in the Court of Exchequer in Ireland? Yes.

What are the duties of that office which are executed by your Lordship in person? I have executed none of the duties in person.

The whole of the duties are executed by deputy? Entirely.

By whom is the deputy appointed? By myself.

With the approbation of the Court of Common Pleas or merely of your own accord? I conceive entirely of my own accord.

The Right Hon. Lord Viscount Mahon, a Member of the House, examined.

What is the nature of the office your

Lordship holds in Ireland? Keeper of the Records in the Birmingham Tower.

What are the duties of that office as they have been executed by your Lordship in person? The duties of that office have been wholly executed by deputy, and they consist in attending at the Birmingham tower, to make search whenever it is necessary to do so.

Your lordship is surveyor of the green wax in the court of exchequer? I am.

What are the duties of that office as they have been executed by your lordship in person? The duties of that office have been wholly executed by deputy.

The Right Hon. Lord Viscount Melville, called in, and examined.

Your Lordship is Keeper of the Privy Seal in Scotland? I am.

What are the duties of that office as executed by your Lordship in person?—There are scarcely any at all executed by myself in person.

Is the whole of the office of Privy Seal executed by deputy? It is wholly.

There has not arisen any case in which your Lordship's deputy has had occasion to refer to you while you have held the office? There has not.

The Right Hon. Lord Robert Seymour, a Member of the House, examined.

Your Lordship is Prothonotary in the Court of King's Bench in Ireland? I am.

What are the duties of that office as executed by your Lordship in person?—I have not executed any of them, but I presume that I might execute them all, they are various.

How many years has your Lordship held that office? About ten years.

During that time has your lordship ever been called upon to discharge any of the duties of it in person? Never.

It has been executed wholly by deputy during your lordship's holding it? Yes.

To be Continued.

PUBLIC OCCURRENCES.

Remarkable instances of Longevity in New Hampshire.

In Dover, Howard Henderson, died in 1772, aged upwards of 100 years. In the former part of his life, he was a seaman, and served on board of the fleet of Sir Cloudesly Shovel, at the taking of Gibraltar, in 1704.

In Durham, John Buss, a prescher of the gospel for 33 years, but not ordained, died in 1736, at the age of 108.

The family of Col. James Davis, was remarkable for longevity, as well as superior stature. The father died in 1749, aged 83; his children, James, aged 93;—Thomas, aged 88; Samuel (in 1788) aged 99; Daniel, aged 65; Sarah, aged 91; Hannah, aged 77; Elizabeth, aged 79;—Ephraim (in 1791) aged 87; Phebe, aged 85 and the widow of Samuel, aged 102, were living in 1779.

In Londonderry, the first planters lived

on an average, to 60 years, some to 90, and many to 100. Among the last was William Scoby, who died at the age of 104. The two last heads of the sixteen families who began the planting of that town, died in 1782, aged about 63 years each. They were both women.

In Chester, James Wilson died in 1793, aged 100 years. James Shirly, in 1634, aged 35, William Craige, and his wife, died in 1775, each aged 100 years.

In Newmarket, William Perkins, died in 1742, aged 116. He was born in the west of England. Gov. Burnet visited him at Newmarket, and examined him respecting many facts and occurrences during the civil wars in England. Mr. Perkins' son died in 1757, aged 87.

In Atkinson, Ebenezer Belknap, died at the age of 75 and his wife at the age of 67.

In Wakefield, Robert Macklin, a native of Scotland, died in 1787, at the age of 15. He lived several years in Portsmouth, and followed the occupation of a baker. He frequently walked from Portsmouth to Boston (which was then 36 miles) one day, and returned the next.

In 1775, Mrs. Lea, died at Portsmouth, the age of 103 years; and Mrs. Mayo, died 106.

NEW HAVEN, JULY 10.

On the 4th of July, the citizens of New-Haven were gratified with an exhibition, which, for novelty, utility, and patriotism, probably stands unrivalled in the records of all preceding festivals of this memorable day.

The farmers, shepherds, mechanics and manufacturers in Col. Humphrey's employ, having beforehand solicited to be fully occupied on this day, he proposed a plowing match, &c. and had them embled at his farm, in Yorkshire quarries, about 3-4 of a mile from the state-house. Their emulation was manifested the early hour of their appearance on ground.*

At the dawn of day, in a field of 18 acres, marked out into lands of one acre each, 14 ploughs started each in its own field, according to its number, each bedrawn by one pair of horses, oxen or mules. The other four lands were ploughed by the teams promiscuously, they finished their own. The animals, bred principally at the Humphrey establishment, consisting of horses, oxen and mules, were generally admired for their beauty, in particular four grey

colts from the stock of Col. H's elegant Arabian horse Ranger. The land No. 7, was finished ploughing before 9 o'clock † The teams, passing and repassing each other in quick succession, presented the most animated picture of the kind we ever witnessed. Whilst this was performing in one field, the axemen and carpenters were felling, hewing and framing timber in another, for a shepherd's lodge, which was ready to be raised before noon. His clothiers, paper-makers, cloth and stocking weavers had during this process, prepared the boards and other covering, which was put on by the appropriate artificers, with great dispatch, the painters instantly following them with their brushes. At given signals the work people ceased from their labours, and refreshed themselves from a neighbouring booth, erected and furnished for the purpose. In the vicinity of the booth a spot was cleared by the surplus hands for a sheep walk (to protect them against winter storms) of about 100 feet in length—under this bower a table was laid for 152 persons. The dinner was principally prepared hot on the ground, by means of a portable Rumford kitchen.‡ What added much to the beauty of the general scenery was the appearance of numerous Merino and other sheep, interspersed amongst the ploughmen. This flock had been brought from Humphreysville to eat the grass before it was destroyed by the ploughs. About 40 apprentices of the Humphreysville factory, dressed in neat and comely uniform, were employed in collecting materials for manure and other agricultural operations. It ought to be remembered, that although many of these children belong to respectable families, yet some of them have been rescued from the most unfortunate situations. All were busy without bustle; each at his station, co-operating without noise, as if animated with the same spirit. Before half past three o'clock, all the processes of ploughing, building, painting, &c. were completed—the ploughing had been finished in a very skilful manner 2 hours before this time. At the sound of the horn, the work people and a number of very respectable farmers re-assembled at the booth, and refreshed themselves with a variety of

† This land was allotted to a respectable farmer, between 50 and 60 years of age, who had walked three miles to his work, and was ploughed by a fine pair of red oxen, the handsomest in the field.

‡ The utility of the Portable Rumford had not probably been experienced in the field on any previous occasion in New England. Five large puddings, various kinds of both meat and vegetables, were cooked in the boilers and steamers at the same time.

The colonel (as is his usual custom) rose very early, and upon coming to the field, was astonished to find them all upon the ground; and very pleasantly observed, that though he was an old soldier, he had this morning, stolen a march of him.

excellent distilled and fermented liquors. Thence they were invited to sit at the table, which was well furnished with Merino mutton, beef, hams, poultry, puddings, &c. the produce of his farms. The proprietor did the honours of the table: and the following sentiment alone was given after dinner: "*Independence—Deeds, not words—Let those who wish to appear to love their country, prove it by actions rather than by toasts and declamations.*"

After dinner the concourse dispersed, much pleased with this new and rational mode of celebrating the anniversary of independence, and highly delighted with the perfect propriety of conduct of all present.

The Belfast association of bleachers have by an advertisement called on the owners of linen and cotton bleach-greens to meet at Belfast on the 9th of next month, to consider of petitioning the house of commons to change the punishment in cases of robbing bleachgreens. We trust that the prevailing sentiments of the punishment being disproportioned to the offence, and the consequent escape of many offenders, will induce the legislature to alter the law, so that certainty shall be substituted instead of severity of punishment. The following is the advertisement.

The Belfast association of bleachers for prosecuting the robbers of bleachgreens fully impressed with the opinion that a change of the punishment of death to transportation for life would tend to the better execution of the law, and the more effectual prevention of offences, request a meeting of the bleachers of linens and cottons, who live contiguously, at the centre room of the white linen hall in Belfast, on Friday the 9th of November, at one o'clock, to consider of presenting a petition to the house of commons early in next session, praying for a repeal of the law which inflicts capital punishment on the robbers of bleachgreens, and of appointing a committee to co-operate with those in other places, who may incline to join in petitions of a similar nature.

They likewise call upon their brethren in the trade in other places to meet as may suit their convenience; for the purpose of petitioning,

and appointing committees for general correspondence to carry the plan into effect, as Sir Samuel Romilly has benevolently promised to present and support any petitions for the mitigating the severity of the penal law in this respect, which shall be committed to his care. Signed by order of the association,

WILLIAM THOMPSON,
TREASURER.

Belfast, October 10.

At the request of a Correspondent we insert the following paper which appeared on this subject in the Belfast Commercial Chronicle.

PENAL LAWS.

Most people are ready to confess, that the punishment of death is too severe for many crimes, which yet ought not to be let go unpunished. Prosecutors and Jurors feel the force of this objection, when a case is directly brought home to them, and many a guilty person escapes from the unwillingness of prosecutors to proceed to the utmost rigour or of Jurors to convict, when the punishment is in their view, disproportioned to the offence. Offenders would not thus escape, if the laws were less severe, and more convictions would take place, tending most materially to the prevention of crimes. Offenders calculate on the chances of escape, which are greatly multiplied by the severity of the law, and the consequent laxness with which it is executed. Most writers on jurisprudence agree, that too great severity of punishment, exceeding the bounds that the common sense of mankind affixes to the transgression, tends to make the law to be loosely executed; and from the uncertainty of punishment a greater facility is given for the commission of crimes, while, on the contrary, mild laws strictly executed, bid fair to lessen the occasions for punishment. In America, the mild system of moderate punishments strictly inflicted, has happily been tried, and found to produce fewer criminals.

Many people are, however, willing to give an indolent assent to obvious truths, who yet are indisposed to take

much trouble in contributing their share to the removal of defects; and it is found difficult to interest them in a cause of which they admit the propriety. It remains to be seen whether the call of the Association of Bleachers will have the effect of rousing general attention to the supposed subject of petitioning parliament, to change the punishment of death for robbing bleach greens into transportation for life. The owners of linen and cotton greens in the neighbourhood of Belfast have been invited to meet on the 9th of next month; and it is earnestly wished, that they may attend to the call, and manifest by their presence on the occasion, that they are interested on the subject, which is not only a question of humanity, but of sound policy, as promoting a measure, which, by providing adequate punishment, is likely to lessen the number of daring attempts, so frequently and so successfully made on bleach greens, notwithstanding the severity of the punishment awarded. There is little or no probability, that crimes will be multiplied by a change of the punishment; and humanity and policy

loudly call for a change, if only by way of trial, to be made.

It is hoped, that bleachers in other districts, will also hold meetings in their respective neighbourhoods, for the purpose of co-operation, that a number of petitions may be sent forward from different quarters to parliament shortly after its meeting. Applications from those, who are so immediately interested in the security of their property, and who, when they act on the side of mercy, may be presumed to be the most proper judges of the degree of punishment best calculated to prevent depredations, cannot fail to make an impression on the legislature; and if nothing more can be effected at present, prepare the way at least for a change at a future period, which the friends to philanthropy hope may not be at a distance. The cause of justice and reason seldom fails in time to make its way, if its advocates persevere with patience and firmness; and it may be allowed to hope, that the abolition of all undue severity in punishing may in the end prove as successful as the abolition of the detested slave-trade.

A Bleacher.

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

At the particular request of some friends of the deceased, we insert the following:

It is seldom an occasion occurs to record a loss which will be so generally, and so severely felt as that of the late Surgeon BOWEN, whose death was announced in the Belfast News Letter of the 17th ult. At the early age of 33, and established a very few years as surgeon to the county Down infirmary, he had risen to such deserved eminence in his profession, as to be called in all cases of danger and difficulty, not only in his own, but in several other counties, and the success which attended his practice, fully justified the preference that was given him. His mind was enriched by an extensive acquaintance with general literature; and all his attainments were enhanced by an uncommon sweetness of disposition, and mild affability of manners, which, while it endeared him to his acquaintance, greatly contributed to soothe the distresses of the sick and afflicted, who always felt the

benefits of medical assistance accompanied with humanity and kindness. The poor, in particular, have sustained a loss, in all probability irreparable; for though they may be supplied with professional ability, they will not readily meet the same constant easiness of access, and tender attention to their complaints. The great number of all ranks who attended the funeral the whole way from Downpatrick to Ballyhalbert, at this busy season, the profound silence, and the dejection visible on every countenance, testify more strongly than any words can do, the highest estimation in which he was held, and the regret occasioned by his untimely removal.

ULSTER

Marriages.... At Enniskillen, Captain Jones, of the 90th regiment, to Miss Woods, of Rushan, co. Fermanagh.

Mr. John M'Shane, of Pointaspas, to Miss Connell, of Newtownhamilton,

R R

Mr Wm. Crossin, of Belfast, to Miss Margaret Lammour, of Magheragell.

Mr. Archibald M'Dowel, to Miss Eliza Steel, both of Ballycarry.

ULSTER.

Deaths.... At Drumacur, near Cushindal,

Roderick M'Leod, aged 82 years; twenty of which he served in the 105th regiment.

At Hazle Bank, Mr. David Dunn, of Belfast.

MEDICAL REMARKS.

THE tribe of winter diseases have made their appearance. They are generally preceded by what, from our frequent use of the terms, the French have denominated the *catch cold*. Within certain limits, alternations of heat and cold in the atmosphere, keep up a perpetual play and healthful energy in the animal system. Through the agency of these ever-varying changes of temperature, the component parts of the whole system, and particularly the source of life and motion, the nervous influence, is kept in a constant oscillation, by which, tone and vigour are communicated to all the moving fibres. The sober and abstinent can bear the great vicissitudes of seasons, as well, and as easily as those of the day. But they take greater effect on habits which are always on the border of inflammation from the effects of inordinate stimulus; in the higher ranks, chiefly, by the excessive use of animal food, and in the lower, by a similar excess of spirituous liquors.

Men are said to be divided into two classes, viz. those who have more dinner than appetite, and those who have more appetite than dinner. But throughout all classes, life is kept too much by stimulus, and too little by nourishment. Life, according to Brown, is a *forced* state; and his practical disciples have well illustrated this *his* view of human nature. If it alternate between high excitement and desponding debility, the constitution becomes less re-active to the changes of the atmosphere, and we grow "servile to all the sky influences." The quiet pleasurable sensation of existence is no longer to be felt. "The delight of being, that forgotten unknown pleasure to such numbers of mortals: this so sweet a thought, this, happiness so pure. *I am, I live, I exist*, is alone sufficient to convey happiness, if we remember it, if we enjoy it, if we know the worth of it." This indescribable pleasurable sensation, in which health consists, and which results from an equal distribution, or equipoise of the vital power, enabling each and all of the organs to the prompt and perfect discharge of their appropriate functions, is seldom or ever felt by these votaries of high enjoyment who vibrate between exhilaration and ennui. It is much to be feared that the medical practice of Dr. Brown, and his numerous disciples which has leaned so much to the use of stimulants, cordial draughts, &c in almost all diseases, has laid the foundation of many bad habits, and chronic ailments, and that physicians have become accessory in *confirming*, by too great a desire to *conform* to the public taste of both sexes, in these particulars.

The best *prevention* of the *catch cold* consists in avoiding sudden and great changes of temperature, either from warm rooms into cold air, or from cold air into heated rooms, which has the same effects. We ought to be more careless about free and general exposure to the air, and more cautious than we are of being partially exposed to it. The best *cure* for the *catch cold* when severe, consists in abstinence from animal food, or an antimonial emetic early taken, and if the person want the resolution of doing this, the use of twenty drops of spirit of hartshorn in a half pint of wine-when, every half-hour; till it create general perspiration. In the feverish stage the best practice lies in frequent and large draughts of cold water.

Water, though degraded of late from the rank of an element, is daily recovering its former fame as one of the best of remedies. * "Ariston men gtor." It is, indeed, in proper time and manner of application, the grand febrifuge;

and in the dexterous management of such men as Sydenham or Currie, the common elements of air and water have been turned into remedies the most powerful and efficacious. As we become more conversant in their effects, external and internal, we shall deal more with the pure elements, and less with vegetable, and still less with mineral poisons. Greater simplicity will be sought after, (altho' much is already practised), both in our remedies, and in consequence in our medical prescriptions. Indeed a compound prescription is always conjectural, and betrays uncertainty of mind in the prescriber. "If this fails being of service, perhaps this other may succeed," is the proposition which takes place in a pendulating mind. Medicines used to be composed of a variety of articles, not merely from the doubt in which article the virtue lay, but frequently from the design of concealing the peculiar virtue of the nostrum, in the crowd of other ingredients.

Without the remotest intention of depreciating the powers of the *materia medica*, it may be perhaps truly asserted, that the cure of most chronic ailments consists in abstinence, and of acute diseases, in depletion. Prisoners' diet, we are perhaps bold in saying, would in a month or two, remove more than two thirds of the disorders of fashionable life. It is really wonderful what a variety and contrivance of torments some men may be brought to endure before they can be made to part with a meat supper. What cupping and scarifying, what phlebotomizing and blistering, and cauterizing to cure, for example a partial plethora, while the general plethora is carefully sustained, under all this martyrdom or marrow pastys and veal cutlets. The great Frederick of Prussia, the hero of the seven years war, and who afterwards atoned, in a degree, for the slaughter of so many thousands by affecting to cultivate philosophy and the Muses, at last, fell a sacrifice, as Dr. Zimmerman assures us, to his fondness for *cel pyc*. There are many great men of the present day (we mean corpulent men) who follow the steps of the great Frederick of Prussia, and after living for years in habits of inordinate stimulus and excessive repletion, are greatly astonished to find a dropsy of fat turned into a dropsy of water, or a fit of intoxication terminate in a fit of apoplexy, yet nothing is more natural.

In acute distempers, it is to be hoped their treatment in general, and particularly of fevers, will gradually, though not slowly, become more in the use of the means of depletion or evacuation, superseding the plan of excessive stimulation. What always tends to shorten life, will not be thought the best refuge in disease, nor will the certain means of inducing chronic maladies be used as prime remedies for acute ones. In addition to the morbid stimulus, wine, opium and ardent spirits, so powerful in changing health into sickness, will not be deemed equally efficacious in turning sickness into health. It will be found the most hazardous line of practice, in the irregular and inordinate action of vital power, which in the progress of fever almost constantly produces particular determinations, or congestions of blood in the brain, lungs, or some of the important viscera, to attempt the restoration of the due and healthful balance, by the superaddition of excessive and exhausting excitement. It is rare to meet with a case of simple, idiopathic, continued fever, without being

* With respect to simple ferrugineous or chalybeate waters, it may be remarked, that their good effects seem to depend more on the complete solution of the iron, than on the quantity of the metal contained in them. It is easy by the addition of a few drops of tincture of iron, to impregnate a tumbler of water strongly, but I think there is, in the natural spring, a more complete solution than in the extemporaneous mixture, which occasions a more ready introduction of the iron into the system, through the bibulous mouths of the lacteals, and by persisting in the use of such weak chalybeates for a proper length of time the salutary tonic effects will be experienced, perhaps more certainly, than by taking large quantities of the carbonate of iron; or of other preparations, whose effects are limited to the first passages; one drop of the tincture of galls, will in five minutes, colour with a purple tinge, three pints of water, which contain only one fifth part of a grain of sulphate of iron.

complicated, if not in its origin, at least in its progress, and almost always a the fatal termination, with local affections, and partial phlegmas, generally of an inflammatory nature, which, at the close, produce abscesses in some of the vital organs. These local tendencies to increased action, are particularly noticeable in Typhus fever; and in those of more general, and violent re-action, the powers of life seem depressed at the close in proportion to their greater excitement at the beginning, so that the means of bringing down the strength of the re-action at first, viz. by evacuations, particularly of timely blood-letting, will become the means of husbanding the vital power for the future more formidable stages. It is only in their progress, and later periods that fevers acquire their contagious malignity, and a proper plan of depletion early resorted to, will prevent the production of a mass of contagion.

In other acute complaints, such as in the hydrocephalic fever, when early blood-letting is of such effectual service, it is much to be lamented that a more dexterous use of the lancet is not taught, and more frequently practised on children.* There is indeed a general timidity with respect to the mode of depletion, which spreads from the patient, and attendants to the operator, and which in general makes the operation itself imperfect and bungling. The faintishness of fear, or any accidental stoppage in the flow of blood is used as a pretence for suspending or deferring the evacuation, where the powers of life are often oppressed and suffocated from the want of it. It appears certain that inflammatory diseases, or local tendencies to increased action have become much more frequent from causes not hard to assign, but which are, in a great degree, referable to the habitual use of stimulants in diet, drink, and abuse of that class of medicines, which forms the fashion, or the curse of the day, while the draft of the shop merely supercedes the dram of the cellar.

AGRICULTURAL REPORT,

From 20th October, till 20th September, 1810.

THE weather has been unusually fine for the last four weeks. There has seldom occurred a season more favourable for the state of crops, which were generally late in consequence of the backward spring.

The grain in a general way has been got into the haggards in good order, yet in several parts of the country there is still a good deal of corn in the fields, and even now to cut down, which must be injured by the wet windy weather that has lately set in, unless a favourable change happens.

From the present prices of grain, it does not appear that the Act for allowing the public stills to work is likely to be attended with that rise on the provisions, that was some time ago predicted by the opposers of that measure; and if the reduction on the duty on spirits has the effect to stop, or even lessen private distillation, the farmers will obtain a fair price for their grain, the revenue of the country may be so far increased as to render it less necessary to lay on additional taxes, as was the case this year, and the poorer classes of the people may not suffer by an exorbitant price of provisions.

The potatoe crops have been much improved by the long continuance of fine weather this autumn, and now promise an abundant supply of that necessary and nutritious root.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

THE bankruptcies which have lately so distressed the commercial world, and the inconveniences which although not yet terminating in bankruptcy, may end in the

* That very useful instrument, a scarificator, (when properly constructed), has received much improvement by the invention of Surgeon Shute, and is for sale at Mr. Winter, cutter, Bridge-street, London.

way, are the natural consequences of the too great issues of paper money, and the unbounded rage for speculation, and of these evils still more highly stimulated by the vicissitudes and uncertainties of the present system of commercial warfare. The effects naturally followed, as might be expected from these causes. Trade is never more prosperous, nor merchants never succeed better, than when by slow, but sure gains, the equable course of commerce is permitted to flow gently forward. But grand enterprize was the general order of the day; every one wished to be great: consequently much was hazarded, and a few in the beginning succeeded to prizes, while the wheel was rich, but latterly blanks have turned up. Trade formerly was more agreeable and safe, and perhaps in the end more productive, when importing merchants sold to the direct users of the article without the intervention of buying from each other on speculation, and making what are termed lucky hits. This system of jobbing unnecessarily raised the price of the article. We have seen a mighty speculation in linens end without gain to the speculators, but producing most injurious effects to the country, by the state into which for the last two years the linen trade has been thrown by the high prices to which linens were raised; for this rise was in a very considerable degree owing to the injudicious and unwarrantable speculations which were set afloat in the last three months of 1808. For a time nothing escaped commercial avidity. Even the purchase of land, and an extensive demesne became the object of speculation. But what has been the issue of all this bustle? Disappointment of too highly raised hopes, and of fancied superior cleverness in managing the affairs of trade, bankruptcies, distresses to find means to support over trading, losses on most articles of importation and exportation have succeeded. Such has been the uncertain state of trade during the last two years, that perhaps few have added to their capital within that period.

The worst has not been seen yet. The report of the bullion committee has thrown a strong light on the dangerous state of our paper currency, and shown beyond the power of sophistry to dispute, that money has been depreciated from 15 to 20 per cent. and consequently every article raised nearly one fifth in price. Immediately before the act of 1797 to excuse the national banks from paying their notes in specie took place, bank stock was 137 per cent; it is now about 252 per cent, and had been higher: the 3 per cents were at 52, and they immediately rose to 63. The monied interest were pleased, and without looking deeply into the probable final result, were ensnared by the plausible promises of Pitt, to attribute this rise to his *durable system of finance*, and fell into his schemes to lend money freely to aid his plans of destructive warfare. The illusion is now dissipated, and one of the chiefs of the monied interest in England has been terrified into an act of suicide by the dismal prospects of the times.

Previous to the restriction act, discounts at the bank of England, were difficult to be procured. The following is asserted to be a just calculation of their

SCALE OF DISCOUNTS.

| | |
|------|-----|
| 1797 | 241 |
| 1798 | 200 |
| 1799 | 251 |
| 1810 | 688 |

From this table we may perceive how rapidly discounts advanced, when the bank expected they were permanently relieved from paying their engagements in specie — The bullion committee have on the principle of justice recommended that at the end of two years, the national banks should be compelled to pay their notes under 5*l*. in coin. But if possible this regulation will be evaded by the bank, and by government. The present administration are avowedly hostile to it, and we have no grounds to expect better from the opposite party, who are struggling for their places. It cannot suit the views of any party desirous to promote war on the present scale of expense.

A return to specie can only be effected by such a curtailment of the issue of paper, as would raise money 15 or 20 per cent, the amount of the present depreciation, so as to allow government to purchase gold bullion on such terms, as would enable them to issue a fresh coinage of guineas. The price of bullion is a criterion to try the value of the circulating medium. When specie has generally disappeared from circulation, if gold in bullion exceeds the nominal value of gold in coin, the medium used for purchasing is necessarily proved to be depreciated. The effect of curtailment must necessarily render money so scarce, in the effort to produce equalization, that government will find it difficult, perhaps impossible, to get their loans. Such an abridgement of discounts must also take place, as will be severely felt by persons in trade, and produce much temporary inconvenience, when from the scarcity of money, the difficulty of procuring discounts, every man will be compelled nearly to de-

only on his own capital. A scarcity of money bearing hard on our war system of profuse public expenditure, must ultimately tend to good by fixing limits to it; and the temporary inconveniences to trade, may be expected to be amply compensated by the increased security for the future. But it is improbable that parliament will speedily adopt the measure of enforcing cash payments, when so many plausible objections addressed to present supposed interests can be advanced against the measure. But unless some renovation of our fragile system of paper credit is speedily adopted, it is possible that the people actuated by an increased panic as to its solidity, and by their fears aggravated by succeeding political events, at no very distant period, may refuse to give confidence to paper any longer, and the history of America and France demonstrates, that when public confidence is lost, which alone gives stability to paper no influence or power of government can uphold it, or give currency to it. Such a crisis may be dreaded, but in the midst of much suffering which such a state would produce, a gleam of hope arises that good effects might be expected, and if there should be less wealth, more true happiness might be the result.

Little business is doing in the commercial world, speculation is nearly at an end, and credit is low. Of course few but the real consumers appear in the market. Much of the pernicious activity which formerly prevailed, and gave a deceptive appearance of prosperity is now withdrawn, and trade is reduced more within its legitimate and proper bounds. A change which may be contemplated for the better, as the bubble of speculation was one fruitful source of the deception respecting our real trade, which tended to mislead as to our situation.

In addition to the low state of the cotton trade, from the want of demand, combination among the workmen is adding to the difficulties. The weavers lately combined, and forced some who had taken work contrary to their regulations to return it to their employers, who gladly embraced the opportunity thus presented to them, to discontinue giving out more work: a measure which the crowded state of their ware rooms rendered expedient, and which this injudicious combination gave a good pretext to accomplish—Now the cotton spinners have formed an association ostensibly for the purpose of affording relief to distressed members, but it is asserted really for the purpose of supporting combination.

The last linen market in Dublin, was extremely dull. There was no demand for America, nor did any buyers from London attend. The demand in the London market has not improved. Brown linens have fallen, and a further reduction may be expected, when a plentiful supply comes to market, unless the purchasers should also be numerous. The crops of flax are very abundant, and now that rain affords water to permit it to be dressed at the mills, flax may be expected to be on very low terms; thus a hope is held up that this manufacture may once more return to its former channels, from which it was displaced by the orders in council of blundering statesmen, the schemes of speculators, the timidity and timeserving of the majority at Armagh, and the dangerous officiousness of public boards. Much loss has been sustained in this trade during the last two years: but contrary to expectation this loss has mostly fallen on the drapers. The manufacturers obtained good prices; brown linens sold high, while the demand for them in the white state was so very flat.

Exchange on London is in Belfast about 9 per cent, and discount on bank notes 2½ per cent.

NATURALIST'S REPORT,

From September 20, till October 20.

Now let the learned gardener mark with care,
The kinds of stocks, and what those kinds will bear,
Explore the nature of each several tree;
And known, improve with artful industry,
And let no spot of idle earth be found,
But cultivate the genius of the ground. VIRGIL.

In marking the progress of vegetation during the last summer, we perceived that owing to the cold dry weather in the spring, it was considerably retarded, and many plants did not make their usual shoots until the season was far advanced, and owing to the uncommon moisture of the summer, even the remarkably fine, and uncommonly warm weather which has prevailed since the beginning of September, will not in all probability ripen the wood, and bring the buds to that maturity which will enable them to resist a cold winter without more than usual injury. If therefore frost sets in early next month, it will be prudent to protect tender exotics, with more than usual care, for the foregoing reasons; neither planting

for felling timber should commence as soon as usual this season, for in the one case the fate and soft shoot will be liable to decay, when checked in the progress of ripening, and in the other, the juices not being completely fixed, will cause the timber to decay much more quickly, and sooner exhibit the depredations of the worm.

September 21, Common Swallows (*Hirundo Rustica*) yet plenty.

25, Red Chelene (*Chelene Obliqua*) flowering.

October 3, Swallows gone. Never, until this season, did I observe the Swallows disappear so totally in a few days; some few are almost always seen until the middle, and one or two may often be seen near the end of October; but this season not one was observed, after this date, notwithstanding the summer-like weather which prevailed; this appears, therefore a very conclusive argument in favour of their emigration, for if they did hide in this country, the temperature would certainly influence their disappearance.

16, Red Wing (*Turdus Iliacus*) come.

17, Larks singing (*Alauda Arvensis*) the Wood-lark, Wren and Red-breast have never neglected to sing every day since the beginning of this period.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

From September 20, till October 20.

It has often been remarked that the seed-time and harvest had a great similarity of weather, this season, however the similitude has been more apparent than usual and nearly the same time of dry weather has lately prevailed which did in the spring, with this difference, that it was considerably warmer, and few seasons have presented a month of October without frosty nights. Some people are beginning to prognosticate a cold winter from the wetness of the summer lowering the temperature of the earth, but although during the summer a great quantity of rain fell, it fell during a high temperature, being usually accompanied with thunder, and may not the warmth and drought of the two last months help to counteract this cooling process, and give us reason to hope for a comfortable winter.

| | | |
|-----------|-------------------|---------------------------------|
| September | 20, 28, | Dry fine days, |
| | 29, | Light rain and cloudy, |
| October | 1, 2, | Dry and cloudy. |
| | 3, 6, | Fine days. |
| | 7, | Some light rain. |
| | 8, 14, | Fine days. |
| | 15, | Rain in the morning. |
| | 16, | Fine. |
| | 17, 18, | Rain in the morning, fine days. |
| | 19, | Cold showers. |

The range of the Barometer has been as high as 30.3 on the fourth of October, and as low as 29.3, on the 18. The Thermometer has been unusually high for the season, the lowest state was 43 on the morning of the 13th of October; on the 30th of September it was as high as 60°, and on the 1st of October it even stood as high as 64°. The mid day heat was mostly high, on the 29th of September it was 65, October 1, 68, and 2d and 8th 65.

The wind during this period has been observed S.W. 7. N.E. 12, S.E. 9, E. 8, therefore the cold East of the spring seems to bring us dry warm weather during the Summer and Autumn.

CELESTIAL PHENOMENA,

FOR NOVEMBER, 1810.

On the 1st, The Moon is seen at a considerable distance from Venus, and to the West of the small stars in the head of the Archer.

5th, She is on our Meridian at 3¹ min. past 7 afternoon, being directly under the four small stars in triangle of the water-pot, Fomalhaut being below her to the East of the Meridian and near the Horizon.

10th, She passes our Meridian at 52 min. past 11, Menkar being directly below her the three first stars of the Ram above her, to the West of the Meridian, and Jupiter and Aldebaran, at some distance to the East of the Meridian; from this latter star, at nine o'clock she is distant 24. 9.

15th, She rises after the third of the Twins, and as she ascends in the heavens, we perceive that she is in the triangle, the angles of which are, the third star of the Twins, the first and second of this constellation, and the two first stars of the little Dog.

20th, She may be seen this morning, as she mounts the heavens, under the body of the Lion, the planet Mars being considerably to the east of her.

26th, We have new Moon in the afternoon, but without producing an eclipse, as she is then much too far north of the ecliptic to produce one.

30th, At her first appearance she is under the two first stars of the Goat, the second of which she passes at 28 minutes past 6. Venus is now at a considerable distance to the West of her.

Mercury is a morning star, and at his greatest elongation on the 1st; of course the opportunities of seeing him will decrease every day, he will be seen, however, during the greater part of the month, the bright harbinger of day, and his passage by the first of the Virgin will amuse the early riser for several mornings. The Moon passes him on the 26th.

Venus is an evening star, and is first seen in the barren region to the East of the eighth of the Serpent-bearer, between the divisions of the Milky-way; she is directing her course to the small stars in the head of the Archer, and in the course of the month passes over about twenty degrees. On the 21st we find her near the 18th star of the Archer, the star being then only nine minutes to the North of her; above her, therefore, are the small stars in the head, under which she continues her course. The Moon passes her on the 20th.

Mars is a morning star, and his motion is direct through about 18 degs. The Moon passes him on the 22d.

Jupiter is on the meridian on the 1st, at 25 min. past one in the morning, and on the 11th at 59 min. past 11. This month is very favourable for making our observations on this beautiful planet. On the 1st, he rises soon after sun-set, under the Pleiades, and is followed by Aldebaran; but he is much nearer the former stars, and is constantly receding from them. The Moon passes him on the 12th.

Saturn is an evening star, but his duration above the horizon after sun-set is short—his course is direct through nearly $3\frac{1}{2}$ degs. beginning at a point in the Milky way under the right leg of the Serpent-bearer, and ending to the West of the seventeenth of this constellation. The Moon passes him on the 27th.

Herschell is in conjunction with the Sun on the 7th, and of course, will be morning star after that time to the end of the Month, but so very near the Sun that few will see him.

ECLIPSES OF JUPITER'S SATELLITES.

| 1st SATELLITE. | | | | 2d SATELLITE. | | | | 3d SATELLITE. | | | | Immersion. | | | |
|----------------|----|----|----|------------------|----|----|----|---------------|----|----|--------|------------|----|----|----|
| Immersion. | | | | Immersion. | | | | Immersion. | | | | Immersion. | | | |
| DAYS. | H. | M. | S. | DAYS. | H. | M. | S. | DAYS. | H. | M. | S. | DAYS. | H. | M. | S. |
| 1 | 6 | 20 | 13 | 3 | 5 | 20 | 15 | 5 | 9 | 22 | 59 Im. | | | | |
| 3 | 0 | 48 | 47 | 6 | 18 | 39 | 28 | 5 | 11 | 29 | 24 E. | | | | |
| 4 | 19 | 17 | 17 | 10 | 7 | 58 | 38 | 12 | 13 | 23 | 51 Im. | | | | |
| 6 | 13 | 45 | 52 | 13 | 21 | 16 | 52 | 12 | 15 | 30 | 53 E. | | | | |
| 8 | 8 | 14 | 25 | 17 | 10 | 35 | 59 | 19 | 17 | 24 | 19 Im. | | | | |
| 10 | 2 | 43 | 1 | <i>Emersion.</i> | | | | 19 | 19 | 32 | 1 E. | | | | |
| 11 | 21 | 11 | 34 | 21 | 2 | 15 | 16 | 26 | 21 | 25 | 22 Im. | | | | |
| 13 | 15 | 40 | 11 | 24 | 15 | 34 | 30 | 26 | 23 | 33 | 47 E. | | | | |
| 15 | 10 | 8 | 45 | 28 | 4 | 52 | 56 | | | | | | | | |
| 17 | 4 | 37 | 23 | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Look to the right hand.*

* First Satellite Continued.

| | | | |
|----|----|----|----|
| 19 | 1 | 13 | 17 |
| 20 | 19 | 41 | 58 |
| 22 | 14 | 10 | 35 |
| 24 | 8 | 39 | 17 |
| 26 | 3 | 7 | 11 |
| 27 | 21 | 36 | 39 |
| 29 | 16 | 5 | 18 |

ERRATA...No. 26, p. 174, col. 1, line 54, for country read county...p. 175, col. 2, line 39, for low read low...p. 176, col. 2, line 27, for as read are...p. 177, line 32, for blood, read brood...No. 27, p. 242, line 41, for passage, read partridge...p. 228, 2 col. last line, for Hopsburgh, read Hapsburgh...p. 228, col. 2, line 1, from the bottom, insert a pretence girls and even.

BELFAST MONTHLY MAGAZINE.

No. 28.]

NOVEMBER 30, 1810.

[Vol. 5.]

COMMUNICATIONS, ORIGINAL AND SELECTED.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

CONVERSATION.

“Sapient discourse, the banquet of the soul,
 Of richest argument and brightest glow,
 Arrayed in dimpling smiles, in easiest flow
 Our’d all its graces”—

TO be able to converse with propriety is a rare accomplishment. To talk when, and as we should, constitutes a chief pleasure of social life. This pleasure is heightened or diminished in proportion to the congeniality of the company, and to the prudent management of the conversation. The infirmities of humanity, in the most accomplished associates, are ever ready to mingle some unpleasant ingredients in the cup of their purest enjoyment. To keep the conversation always alive would require the vivacity and garrulous taste of a Frenchman: and yet the *etiquette* of modern manners seems to call for ceaseless talk in all our social interviews. No wonder then, that mistakes should result from the universal imposition of this law, that common-place observations on the news of the day, and the state of the weather, should be often resorted to; or that flippancy and futility should sometimes prevail. It may be as irksome and difficult for some to maintain the conversation, as it would be for others to lay their pliant tongues even under a temporary interdict. Prejudice readily operates against the grave and the silent, as if they were defective in politeness. Such may be ignorant and idle, and the company are not obliged to be all mutes, because some either cannot or will not speak: but they may neither be wanting in knowledge, nor polite accomplishment.

“He that hath knowledge spareth
 BELFAST MAG. NO. XXVIII.

his words.” Justice demands, that they should at least have an opportunity of speaking in their turn. It is said to have been a rule with Swift, that when he had spoken two minutes, he remained silent for two, giving another the same privilege which himself had taken. Advantage might be derived in endeavouring to wean the silent from those habits of taciturnity which they have contracted by frequent sequesterations; or in provoking to action the tongues of those who are naturally inclined to be mute. Rich metal rewards the labour of the miner, and good water more than compensates the trouble of pumping for it. It may be no easy matter for the modest and bashful to drop a word in presence of the brazen importance of the petulant and presuming. A feeble expression, overwhelmed in the general din, passes unobserved. The forward require a curb, while the diffident need encouragement. It is a most unpleasant thing in company to be condemned to silence and to be overlooked. This is frequently the unhappy lot of many, and especially of strangers; even among those who pique themselves not a little upon good breeding. Local circumstances, with which we and our neighbours are acquainted, because they are ready and easy, frequently form the subject of conversation. But on these the lips of the stranger must of necessity be sealed. Where our localities are introduced, those of the stranger claim an equal right to a place. It is the duty of every individual in a company to contribute to the general happiness of the whole. None then will be made the merry Andrew or hobby of the rest, even though his folly or his stupidity should so dispose him. None will make a monopoly of the conversation, or endeavour to eclipse, S s

much less expose, his partners. A degree of raillery and repartee may much heighten convivial joys; but their excessive indulgence never fails to wound the feelings. No overbearing arrogant, with his iron lungs, stentorian voice, and horse-laugh, should be allowed to strike his audience dumb, or thunder all around him into silence. Who gave his blustering tongue an exclusive privilege of dealing in a commodity which is alike common to all? He is a tyrannical usurper who forcibly seizes and holds in possession the right of others. It is still more particularly the province of the master of the ceremonies to promote the happiness of every individual. To gain this desirable end, he will use every means in his power, or which true politeness would dictate, to invite the backward to a share in the conversation, as well as every other part of the entertainment: while he will contrive to impose every prudent constraint upon the bold garrulity of the over confident.

However sumptuous the treat is, it must be a poor one indeed to the man who sits alone in company. No festive sweet can he taste who feels the mortification of being obliquely eyed as if he were a boor, and who burns under all the anxiety of silence and neglect. Cheerful and gay are all around him, incessant is the chat; yet, in some solitary corner, sits a poor fellow struggling to usher a thousand half formed observations, all of which perish in the birth. The longer he is silent the more insurmountable appear his difficulties. His own voice becomes strange to him. His remarks at length ventured to be made, are but as the faint chirp of the insect mid the sonorous choristers of the forest. He views his honour, his reputation, and his consequence as at stake. He sees his chattering associates caressed, and himself left to those poignant reflections which are the concomitants of cold neglect. He considers his treatment as little better than insult, regrets his visit, sits unhappy, departs in chagrin, condemns the whole assembly, but especially him whose more peculiar duty it was to furnish entertainment for all his guests.

It will be readily acknowledged, that no artist in politeness can force the dumb to speak, or extract sense from the idiot. No exertion will furnish a man with those brains of which nature has deprived him. It would be a vain undertaking to attempt to draw wisdom from a fool, or strike wit from the lumpish head of the dunce. Yet, by the influence of proper treatment, the heavy may be allured to some degree of liveliness, the rough and awkward meliorated, and the modest and diffident encouraged to support their own dignity: the recluse may be enticed to become sociable, and the inexperienced youth taught the pleasing refinements of fashionable converse.

In promiscuous companies general topics of discourse are the most becoming, and these should be varied so as to suit every taste. Lately, at a dinner party of a mercantile gentleman, where were five merchants, a lady, and one clergyman, the whole conversation turned upon the several adventures and success in trade of the individual merchants. The lady and the parson were overlooked: while the latter with as much general concern, and as great consistency, might have engrossed the time in lecturing the company on the canons of the church; and the former in entertaining them with an encomiastic detail of modern fashions. On the return of the visit, however, the commercial gentry were amply repaid. The lady, assisted by a group of female fashionables, contrived to entertain them wholly on the subject of a new modish romance of which they had not before so much as heard, and of which they could say nothing: and the parson, seconded by an antique divine, dwelt entirely on the zealous discussion of a speculative question in polemic theology.

Various are the circumstances which often occur to frustrate the free, the agreeable and equitable flow of the conversation. A party of jarring sentiments and opposite interests, may be unhappily met. A passionate or peevish mortal, impatient of contradiction, often spoils a whole entertainment. A gloomy being, by his unseasonable melancholies, may damp the spirits

and sadden the hearts of all. Our jealousies of each other, studied preparation for a visit, the ceremonious formality of our meetings, often impose a wearisome silence upon us. We would fondly say something, but are unable. Short questions and long intervals between them, meet with rare and curt replies. Our very endeavours to talk beget silence. The conversation is not alive till it dies. We find our tongues tied, and our heads barren: listlessness and yawning prevail.

In the course of last season, and on the joyful event of a marriage, a large and goodly number of friends met together to spend an afternoon in compliance with a formal invitation. They came dizen'd out in their very best attire; and by their stiff formalities were evidently prepared to conduct themselves with studied prudence and decorum. It might be reasonably expected, that the occasion of the meeting, and the sumptuous entertainment would have elated their spirits, and loosened their tongues. But "in solemn silence all" did they permit this festive eve to pass away. Watchful, lest some mistake might escape their lips, they sat more like an exhibition of wax-works, than a convivial party on a wedding day. The want of chat produced a gloomy vacuity. This was felt by all. A thousand springs were attempted to be opened; but from none of them could conversation be made to flow. As if affected with sympathetic influence, the very talkative became dumb. The company more resembled the pensive attendants of a funeral, than the partners of festivity. It is not the being present at such meetings, but a departure from them that lightens the heart. Of the rigid reserve and stiffness of forms, of mutual suspicions and fears, we must be divested before we can exercise our natural hilarity, and enjoy the pleasures of confabulatory correspondence.

The long-winded story-teller, with his cant sayings, and circumlocutionary digressions, blasts the sweet fruits of social intercourse. Patience is jaded in listening to protracted details and stale repetitions. That re-

ciprocal interchanging of the conversation which makes it pleasing, undergoes too long a pause. Mean adages, and low language, are disgusting to a good taste, and offensive to the delicate ear.

The numerous limitations of converse render the satisfactory conducting of it a matter of no inconsiderable difficulty. Decency says it should not be rude, nor should that obscenity, and double *entendre* be at all admitted which have been frequently the disgrace of rational society. Religion prohibits every thing wicked. Fashion excludes what is uncouth and rustic. Politeness and refined taste forbid barbarity. Good manners suggest the impropriety of private whispers, of two or more speaking at one time, of anticipation, interruptions, and direct contradiction. Modesty and humility oppose the intrusions of arrogance and ostentation. Reason and common sense consider themselves intitled to circumscribe the prevalence of trifling and chit chat, to disregard witticisms and preclude ribaldry and nonsensical jargon. A parade of learning subjects to the contempt of pedantry.

The unseasonable introduction of piety and devotion incurs the reproach of enthusiasm. Mincing in sounds, and affected nicety of pronunciation discover the superficiality of the coxcomb: as do low jests the barrenness and vitiated taste of the witling. We must not indulge the marvellous, if we would avoid the charge of lying; nor should we act the part of the conceited puffier, who entertains us with his own great exploits; or of the egotist, who to his obtrusive I is ever subjoining something respecting himself.

If such are the restrictions of that conversation, which custom and social pleasure nevertheless incline to keep afloat in company, then it may be reasonably asked, what are allowable subjects of discourse? What are the requisite qualifications of a pleasing converse, in the exercise of which he will be an acceptable companion, and shun the many improprieties to which the uncultivated are liable? I will endeavour to give some answer to these questions in a brief sketch

of part of the character of an old acquaintance, whose name was Thomas Welcome.

This gentleman was a native of Scotland, but had lived so long in Ireland as to be naturalized. On the breast he had imbibed the shrewdness of a Scotchman, but in mingling with the Irish, he had also acquired a good share of their ingenuousness, openness, and unsuspecting demeanour. As the foundation of all good breeding, he possessed an excellent natural temper, and full command of himself. This disposed him to be pliable, submissive, and patient; and enabled him to manage the irascible and the pettish. He was not however so yielding, as to have, or express, no opinion of his own. A good stock of manly sense led him sometimes to differ from others in judgment. His *ay*, in supercilious contempt, or to add to his own importance, was not withheld when it should have been given, or crouchingly and flatteringly given when an "animated *no*" supported his dignity, and maintained what he conceived to be right. He could not be called a lover of controversy, yet when argumentative topics were introduced, taking care to give fair play to his opponent, and never to push the argument too far, he mildly urged solid reason, instead of dogmatical assertion in support of his cause. Though considerably advanced in years, when I became first acquainted with him, he discovered none of the peevishness of age; nor did he assume a dictatorial air amongst inferiors, or seem to look for, or claim much of that respect due to hoary hairs. He well knew the imperfections of man, and was ready to make that allowance for human weakness which he conceived himself to need. He had studied men, and by application and experience, learned much of the art of pleasing suitable to them, as young and old of both sexes, and as possessing perfections and defects. He paid superior attention to the female part of the company, and endeavoured to model his colloquial habits as gratifying to their peculiar taste, and harmless vanities. By pleasing them he pruned

himself, the asperities of his language and address were smoothed by the polishing qualities of their softer manners, and his inelegancies worn away by the influence of their higher refinement. Their gay pleasantry revived his lagging spirits, and the fund of his conversational capacity was much increased by the variety and ease of their chat, and the captivating sweetness of their tongues.

He had studied books as well as men, that by conversing with the dead he might be better qualified to keep company with the living. He prudently and modestly disposed of his stock of book learning, as occasion required. Accurate knowledge of the past, enabled him, as circumstances called for it, to discourse with more precision of the present, and also to speculate and conjecture with greater probability concerning the future. For, "that which hath been is now; and that which is to be, hath already been." He had gathered a large and valuable collection of entertaining stories, not from the jest books of his day, but by remembering the choicest of those events and anecdotes which had turned up in the extent of his travels, or which, in the former part of his life, had happened within the circle of his acquaintance, and in the round of his intercourse with the world. None of these stories were long, none of them indelicate, none of them were ever dragged into notice at an unseasonable moment. They were at no time unsuitably multiplied. He possessed a happy dexterity in telling them, so as to produce the desired effect. By a timely stroke of his humour; and just emphasis, without embarrassment, and with little laughter on his part, he often excited the convulsive and gaping roar of the company. Being perfectly at ease, and appearing ever cheerful and happy, he diffused happiness around him. He was not unacquainted with the honours of the table, having occasionally sat at the festive board of a lord, and often shared in the simple repast of the plain yeoman. He knew something of the splendid emolument, and grand formalities of the city festival; and was conversant with

the unaffected modes, and cheerful entertainment of rural simplicity. He possessed a palate to make choice of his dish, and was no enemy to that moderate glass which adds oil to the wheel of circulating discourse. He received none of his education at the school of scandal, and therefore the blunders of the last party, the backbiting of his neighbours, formed no part of his conversation. He heartily joined in what good could be said of an absent friend or enemy; and was not averse to limit the eccentricities of those who were present, by witty insinuations, and gentle satire. He perused periodical publications, noticed passing events, in town and country, read the gazette, observed modern fashions, and improvements, and thus stood prepared to make remarks on existing circumstances, and "manners as they rose." He was a politician in common with every British subject, but, though a terminated loyalist, his political principles never urged him to make hot or too sanguine opposition to a noisy reformer and wild theorist. To all this it is unnecessary to add, if company was courted; Thomas was welcome in a double sense. He lived beloved, and died lamented.

S. E.

*Ballynahinch.**For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.*

IF the following ideas, which arose after a conversation that took place in hearing an account of the unfortunate termination of Sir John Moore's expedition, is worthy a place in your magazine, you have the liberty of a friend to your publication to insert them.

THOUGHTS ON SIR JOHN MOORE'S EXPEDITION.

Could we divest ourselves of all these feelings which bind society together, could we lay aside those principles of benevolence and philanthropy which all religions inculcate, and could we view the great end of the eighteen years of desolating war, which has spread misery beyond even the confines of Europe, then might we rejoice on beholding the carnage

of the well fought field, and see reflected from the flowing blood, as from a mirror, future happiness to mankind, but to us it is not allowed to scan the ways of the Almighty, and although the page of history even tells us, that the wars of Greece and Rome spread civilization and the arts, wherever their triumphant armies fixed their standards, we cannot so far renounce our feelings, and impress on our minds, the bright images of the future prospect, as not to sympathize with the sufferers in the present contest, and blame those whose folly and ambition, blow the trumpet of war. How long the comfort and happiness of the many, will be sacrificed to the interest of the few, it is not for us to say, but we hope the day is not far distant, when the wisdom of the British nation will triumph over the present opposing obstacles to its happiness, establish its constitution, on those principles of justice which dictated Magna Charta and the bill of rights, shake off totally the galling influence of the feudal system, see true glory alone, in promoting the happiness of the people; and true honour, in fulfilling their engagements with the surrounding nations. Never was a more false position upheld, than that nations should not be bound by the same principles of integrity, as individuals, in vain have Puffendorf and Grotius displayed the principles of national morality, and no wonder that many cry out eternal war, for alliances have been looked upon as only binding so long as a nation was inferior to its ally, and negotiations transacted more like the business of swindlers than the acts of enlightened nations, who might consider, that the more prosperous and populous their neighbours were, the greater field would be opened for their industry to find a reward, and a market wherein to exchange the produce of a different soil and climate, and such is the wisdom displayed in the formation of this earth, that no country produces all the necessities of even the most simple state of society, still less enough to satisfy the craving appetite of luxurious people, making necessary a communication by which kindness might be extended to

the remotest corners of the earth, and convert mankind into one great family, reciprocally extending their arms to confer benefits on each other. How different is the picture presented to our view on every side, mutual jealousy of prosperity, and industry only directed to acquiring riches and power, in order to vex and destroy each other. Ambition, the dire ambition of possessing all things, of governing all, has wasted the blood of the world, and destroyed the happiness of millions.

From the days of Alexander to the present, it has been the constant practice of contending nations, to endeavour to fix the seat of war in the enemies' country; but unfortunately for England, since the first alarm of revolution engaged her as an acting partner in the war, she has never been able to accomplish this plan, and her endeavours after this grand object, have only brought destruction into the territory of her allies. She has seen state after state, fall before the republican energy of new levies, and the trained bands of the Great Frederick, resist in vain, the impetuous attack, of almost undisciplined recruits; mutual jealousies dividing the continent, the most powerful nations have now bowed before the eagles of France, and left England alone and unfriended to contend for her independence. Whether Mr. Pitt's opinion of the high value of the command of the mouth of the Scheldt, combined with the idea of destroying a few ships of the line, dictated this unfortunate expedition, or that of dividing the attention of Napoleon, it is impossible for us to tell. If, however, the first mentioned objects were the cause of the launching of this immense armament, Mr. Pitt must have been apparently ill acquainted with the form of the adjoining coast, and the present ministry of the situation and nature of the island of Walcheren, which from its proximity to other islands, and its flatness must be ever liable to attack, and could not be maintained but at an expence of both men and ships, totally above its value; and if the destruction of the seven ships of the line was the object, it would seem to say to the gallant commanders of the British Navy, we have not such confidence in your powers, but that the destruction of a French ship is to be

desired at however great an expence, and if the opinion prevailed, that by an attack on the coast of Holland the attention and power of France might be divided, it would appear that the planners of the expedition have been very inattentive to the Napoleon mode of warfare, which commands success by never allowing a secondary object to interfere with a primary one. His plan has always been to overcome the greatest obstacle, justly conceiving that the lesser must then give way of course. If instead of dividing our own forces we had concentrated the whole power in Spain, then might we have acted with full effect, and given spirit both to Germany and Spain; unhappily this plan was not adopted, and after a total failure of our schemes on the Scheldt, by the unforeseen and vigorous opposition of the Garrison of Flushing, and mortality which ensued, we have to look at the destruction of our gallant army in Spain, sacrificed we may say, to the feeble and ill concerted efforts of a party contending for the re-establishment of a government as it would appear for which the people were not anxious; no doubt the Spaniards feel themselves in some degree uneasy at the transfer to new masters, unacquainted with their prejudices, and habits, but what has the Junta promised to attach the people to the cause of their dethroned monarch? had they promised Spain a reform of those abuses apparent to the meanest subject, and had England seconded their views, and appeared as guarantee for the due execution of the scheme, then might the people have risen with that energy, which the love of liberty always inspires; then might the throne of Napoleon been made to totter; then might England have met with people worthy of being assisted, and our army combatants and friends equally anxious for glory as themselves.

To the Editor of the Belfast Magazine.

SIR,

I send you the first oration of Cicero against Cataline, as a specimen of a translation which was intended to be "close, but not so close, as to be servile; free, but not so free, as to be licentious." I request the criticism of

any of your literary correspondents.*
I am, sir, yours, A POOR SCHOLAR.

*The first Oration of Cicero against
Cataline.*

CATALINE! How far, art thou to abuse our forbearance? How long, are we to be deluded, by the mockery of thy madness? Where art thou to stop, in this career of unbridled licentiousness? Has the nightly guard at the Palatium *nothing* in it, to alarm you; the Patroles throughout the city, *nothing*; the confusion of the people, *nothing*; the assemblage of all true lovers of their country, *nothing*; the guarded majesty of this assembly, *nothing*; and all the eyes that, at this instant, are rivetted upon yours, have they *nothing* to denounce, nor you to apprehend? Does not your conscience inform you, that the sun shines upon your secrets, and do you not discover a full knowledge of your conspiracy, revealed on the countenance of every man around you? Your employment, on the last night; your occupations, on the preceding night; the place where you met; the persons who met; and the plot fabricated at the meeting; of these things, I ask not, who knows; I ask, who, among you all is ignorant?

But, alas! for the times thus corrupted; or rather for mankind that thus corrupt the times! The senate knows all this. The consul sees all this: and yet the man who sits there—lives. Lives! Aye—Comes down to your senate-house; takes his seat,

* It is hoped that no one will fall into the mistake of drawing conclusions from the just indignation of Cicero against Cataline to countenance the fashionable opinions, which in different ages have branded some of the best men, the revered and honoured martyrs of liberty, as conspirators. Not the designing, profligate Cataline will ever stand distinguished from the steady patriot, and true friend to his country and to man. Cataline fell a victim to his evil passions, but the page of history furnishes us with names, who have been branded as foul conspirators by the baseness and madness of their contemporaries, but whose memories are dear to the lovers of freedom, and to whom posterity will yet do justice.

as counsellor for the common-weal; and with a deliberate destiny in his eye marks out our members, and selects them for slaughter; while, for us, and for our country, it seems glory sufficient, to escape from his fury, to find an asylum from his sword.

Long, very long before this late hour, ought I, the consul, to have doomed this ringleader of sedition to an ignominious death; ought I to have overwhelmed you, Cataline, in the ruins of your own machinations. What! Did not that great man, the High Priest, Publius Scipio, although at the time, in private station, sacrifice Tiberius Gracchus for daring even to modify our constitution; and shall we, clothed as we are with the plenitude of consular power, endure this nuisance of our nation, and our name, shall we suffer him to put the Roman Empire to the sword, and lay waste the world, because such is his horrid fancy. With the sanction of so late a precedent, need I obtrude the fate of the innovator Spurius Melius, immolated at the altar of the constitution, by the hand of Servilius Ahala? There has, yes! there has been, and lately been, a vindicatory virtue, an avenging spirit in this republic, that never failed to inflict speedier and heavier vengeance on a noxious citizen than on a national foe. Against you, Cataline, and for your immediate condemnation, what, therefore, is wanting? Not the grave sanction of the senate. Not the voice of the country. Not ancient precedent. Not living law. But we are wanting—I say it more loudly—we the consuls themselves.

When the senate committed the republic, into the hands of the Consul L. Opimius, did presumptive sedition palliate the punishment of Caius Gracchus, or could his luminous line of ancestry, yield even a momentary protection to his person? was the vengeance of the executive power on the Consul Fulvius and his children, arrested for a single night! when similar power was delegated to the consuls C. Marius, and L. Valerius, were the lives which, the prætor Servilius, and the Tribune Saturninus

had forfeited to their country, prolonged for a single day? But, now, twenty days, and nights, have blunted the edge of our axes, and our authorities. Our sharp pointed decree sleeps, sheathed in the record—that very decree, which, a moment after its promulgation, was not to find you a living man. You do live, and live, not in the humiliating depression of guilt, but in the exultation and triumph of insolence. Mercy, Conscript Fathers, is my dearest delight, as the vindication of the constitution is my best ambition, but I, now, stand self-condemned of guilt in mercy, and I own it as a treachery against the state.

Conscript Fathers!—a camp is pitched against the Roman Republic, within Italy, on the very borders of Etruria. Every day adds to the number of the enemy. The leader of those enemies, the commander of that encampment, walks within the walls of Rome; takes his seat in this senate, the heart of Rome; and, with venomous mischief, rankles in the inmost vitals of the commonwealth. Cataline—should I, on the instant, order my Lictors to seize and drag you to the stake, some men might, even then, blame me for having procrastinated punishment, but no man could criminate me for a faithful execution of the laws. They shall be executed. But I will neither act, nor will I suffer, without full and sufficient reason. Trust me, they shall be executed; and then, even then, when there shall not be found a man so flagitious, so much a Cataline, as to say, you were not ripe for execution. You shall live, as long as there is one who has the forehead to say you ought to live; and you shall live, as you live now, under our broad and wakeful eye, and the sword of justice shall keep waving round your head. Without the possibility of hearing, or of seeing, you shall be seen, and heard, and understood.

What is it now, you are to expect, if night cannot hide you, nor your lurking associates; if the very walls of your own houses, resound with the secret, and proclaim it to the world; if the sun shines, and the winds blow upon it? Take my advice,

adopt some other plan, wait a more favourable opportunity for setting the city in flames, and putting its inhabitants to the sword. Yet, to convince you, that you are beset, on every side, I shall enter, for a little, into the detail of your desperations, and my discoveries.

Do you not remember, or is it possible you can forget my declaration on the 21st October last, in the senate, that Caius Manlius, your life guards-man, and confidential bearer, would, on a certain day, take up arms, and this day would be before the 25th, was I mistaken in the very day selected for a deed so atrocious, so apparently incredible? Did not I, the same man, declare, in this house, that you had conspired the massacre of the principal men in the state, upon the 28th, at which time they withdrew, for the sake of repressing your design, rather than on account of safety to themselves! Are you daring enough to deny your being, on that very day, so manacled by my power, so entangled by my vigilance, that you durst not raise your finger against the stability of the state, although indeed, you were tongue-valiant enough to say, that you must even be content with the heads which the runaways had left you. What! with all your full-blown confidence of surprising Preneste, in the night, on the 1st of November, did not you find me, in arms, at the gate: did you not feel me in watch on the walls? Your head cannot contrive, your heart cannot conceive a wickedness of which I shall not have notice; I measure the length and breadth of your treasons, and I sound the gloomiest depths of your soul.

Was not the night before the last, sufficient to convince you that there is a good genius protecting that republic, which a ferocious demoniac is labouring to destroy. I aver that on that same night, you and your complotters assembled in the house of M. Lecca. Can even your own tongue deny it? Yet secret! Speak out, man! for if you do not, there are some I see around me, who shall have an agonizing proof that I am true in my assertion.

Good and great Gods! where are

we? What city do we inhabit? Under what government do we live? Here, **HERE**, Conscript Fathers! mixed and mingled with us all, in the center of this most grave, and venerable assembly, are men sitting, quietly incubating a plot, against my life, against all your lives, the life of every virtuous senator, and citizen, while I, with the whole nest of traitors brooding beneath my eyes, am parading in the petty formalities of debate, and the very men appear scarcely vulnerable by my voice, who ought long since to have been cut down with the sword.

In the house of Lecca, you were on that night. Then and there did you divide Italy into military stations; did you appoint commanders of those stations; did you specify those whom you were to take along with you, and those whom you were to leave behind; did you mark out the limit of the intended conflagration; did you repeat your resolution of shortly leaving Rome, only putting it off for a little, as you said, until you could have the head of the consul. Two knights, Roman knights, promised to deliver that head to you before sun-rise the next morning; but scarcely was this stygian council dissolved, when the consul was acquainted with the result of the whole. I doubled the guards at my house, and after announcing to a circle of the first men in the state (who were with me at the time) the very minute when these assassins would come to pay me their respects, that same minute they arrived, asked for entrance, and were denied it.

Proceed, Cataline, in your honourable career. Go where your destiny, and your desire are driving you. Evacuate the city for a season. The gates stand open. Begone! What a shame that the Maurian army should look out so long for their general! Take all your loving friends along with you, or, if that be a vain hope, take, at least, as many as you can, and cleanse the city for some short time. Let the walls of Rome be the mediators between thee and me, for, at present, you are much too near me. I will not suffer you. I will not longer undergo you. I give thanks

to the immortal Gods, and especially to the God presiding in this temple, the guardian of the city, and stabilisher of the state, for my past deliverance from this pest of the republic; but we, now stand here, as the Roman state, and whoever conspires against my person is the assassin of Rome. As long, Cataline, as your plot was leveled against the consul elect, I met you as man would meet such a man. I borrowed no safe-guard from government, but was my own protector. Even at the late consular comitia, when you designed to murder me, in office at the time, with all your competitors on the spot, I blamed your design with a croud of private friends, without exciting any public commotion. You struck. I parry'd the blow levelled at my country through my side. But now that you have declared open, unambiguous war against your country in the first instance, destruction to the citizens, devastation to the city, domestic, public, and divine, not as yet finding ourselves prepared for that prime duty to which we acknowledge ourselves decidedly bound, by the dignity of our station, the sacred majesty of the empire, and the awful authority of our fathers, we shall do what, in the next degree, is best becoming us, and we shall soften the edge of public justice, merely from a consideration of public utility. Your execution would not deliver the republic from the malignant attempts of others equally vicious, but should the city once get rid of you, the scum of conspiracy might drain off along with you, and in staying, you are really setting your obstinacy not so much against my command, as against your own resolution. The consuls order an enemy to avoid the city. Do I then command you into banishment? No. It is to an enemy I speak, not to a citizen.

What indeed is there, in this city, which can tempt you to stay? Is there, in its streets, a man, except your own banditti, who will not turn aside for fear of meeting you, or else look into your face with horror? Is not your private life branded as to the bone, with every turpitude? Has not your body bled at home and abroad, the obedient pander of
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your lascivious soul, ready to act or to suffer every dishonour? Is there among all the young men you have ruined, one, to whose madness you have not lent your poignard, to whose lust you have not lighted a lanthorn? When you had emptied your house of one wife to make room for another, did you not then crown even your own character with such black abomination.—But let me be silent here. Let it not be told; if possible, let it not be conceived, that such deeds have been practised in Rome; and let me, with silent reverence, draw a veil over public justice which had the long suffering to endure them. As slightly, shall I touch on the impending ruin of your domestic affairs. I pass this by. I attach myself to the general concern of us all, our lives, our properties, our common liberties.

Can the light of the sun be delightful, or the breath of heaven sweet to him, who knows there is not one present who does *not* know, that on the last day of December, in the consulship of Lepidus and Tullus, this Cataline stood, in the open comitia, himself armed with a dagger, and attended with a troop of his adherents, for the sole purpose of massacring the consul and the principal men in the state; that nothing was wanting on his part, neither desperation in the doer, nor dread of the deed, and that only a lucky chance shielded the republic, on that day, from his fury? I pass this also, however palpable and notorious. How often have I parry'd the thrust of death as if by a slight inclination of the body? How often, as consul elect, how often as consul. My eye pursues you through all your windings, anticipates all your machinations, yet still you work on in the darkness of criminality. How often has that dagger been wrested out of your hand, or dropt from your breast, yet still you pick it up, and cherish it as devoted by the infernal deities to be buried in the breast of a consul.

In the name of heaven, what manner of man are you? For, although you are worthy of my hottest indignation, I must now pause, for a moment, to take pity upon you. You came, a short time ago, into the senate.

Point me out a single man, in this crowded room, not even of your own faction, who accosted you with the commonest courtesy of the day; and after this most unparalleled insult, are you waiting, miserable man! for any more expressive verdict of your guilt, than such silent contempt? What do you naked, and deserted benches tell you? Is it necessary for all the consuls who have made their escape from the bench where you are sitting to rise up, and with one voice, say, Cataline! begone from among us. How can you have the forehead to bear all this? By heaven, were I the object of such fear to the menials of my household, as you are to your fellow-citizens, I should abandon my own house, while you keep clinging to a city that abhors you, and struck at, and blasted by every eye, and floundering from deep to deeper infamy, are still able to present yourself before the faces of men whose honour spurns at you, whose very senses loathe you. You would run from parents who hated you as cordially as your country hates and fears you, yet when that common mother of us all, struggles to fling this parricide from her bosom, he mocks her authority, spurns at her decrees, and sullenly smiles at her meditated vengeance.

I think I see your parent country standing in disdainful silence, at your side, and I shall interpret that look which she casts down upon you. "Not one mischief of magnitude has of late occurred, not a single rank sedition which has not been planted by your hand, and ripened under your fostering care, thou licensed breaker of my peace, permitted plunderer of my allies, self authorized assassin of my citizens, audaciously arming thyself against my laws, or insidiously evading them. As I could, not as I would, have I suffered what is past; but now, that thou dost infect the very air which I breathe, making even the virtue of others vain, and dying every public crime with deeper malignity, I can suffer thee no longer. Disburthen me. Whether my fears be founded or fallacious, deliver me from thee and them."

Were your country to speak to you, as I have done, ought there to

a necessity for any violence to force you away? But it seems you have yourself most condescendingly offered to place yourself in safe custody. But it seems in order to avoid the breath of calumny, you have declared your readiness to take up your abode with M. Ledus, and as he did not wish to receive you, you had the confidence come to me, and demand my use for your prison. My answer is, that the man, whom within the walls of the same city, I found much nearer me, I could by no means suffer in the walls of the same house. You then went to the Prætor Metellus, and by him too, rejected, you naturally migrated to an excellent member of your own society, M. Marcellus, well assured, no doubt, of being at length pitched upon the most diligent sentinel, a most vigilant watch, a most courageous defender of the laws. But from all this must I not have room to conclude, his distance not to be great from chains and a prison, who by his own acknowledgement, declares himself fit to be put under safe custody. If then it be impossible for you to stay with any degree of security to others or to yourself, why linger in the resolution of going to any other place, and of saving by delay and solitude the wretched remains of a life snatched from the hands of the executioner. Move the senate to that purport, you demand; if it orders your banishment, profess an instant obedience. This is not the mode of conduct most suitable to my disposition, I shall, on the moment, ascertain your conviction the judgment of the senate respecting you. I say, beware from this city. Deliver the senate from inquietude. If you hesitate, I want of a word—Go, I say, into BANISHMENT—Well. Have you understanding? can you interpret? Not a murmur in the assembly. It is so. And yet do you wait for signs to manifest the wishes of the people which are clamorous, in their silence? Where I to utter such words to an excellent youth P. Sextius, or that brave man M. Marcellus, the senate would justly arrest their

consul, even in the temple of the law. But on the question of your banishment, their silence is assent, their passiveness has all the virtue of a decree, and the vigour of a vote by acclamation. Nor is it merely this order of the senate, whose authority so valued now, has been at other times so contemned, but it is the class of Roman Knights who join honesty with honour; it is the multitude of brave citizens who are, now, surrounding this assembly, whose numbers you see, whose wishes you know, whose voices you might a little ago have pretty plainly heard, and from whose hands I can myself scarcely protect you, yet even these shall I prevail upon to accompany, and guard you to the very gates of that city which you had destined for conflagration.

But why am I thus talking to *him*? as if the wind of an airy threat could shake *him*? as if *he* stood self-chastised! as if *he* meditated flight! as if *he* thought of banishment! May heaven so dispose him, even at my risk of that storm of calumny which should encounter me, if not at the present time inflamed with the recent sense of your enormities, yet in the judgment of succeeding days. But this, in my estimation ranks as nothing, provided the consequences be personal, and the republic be secure. But that you should ever come to a full sense of your crimes, that you should ever regain a proper respect for the laws, that you should ever yield yourself to the calls of your country and exigency of the state; this is indeed a barren expectation. You are not Cataline, of that mold whose baseness any shame can deter, whose desperation any danger can appal, whose madness any reason can appease.

How often then must I exclaim, be gone.—If you hate me, go, and load me with the opprobrium of having ordered Cataline into banishment. If you love me, go, and accelerate my triumph. But for this purpose my glory demands you to carry along with you the most desperate of your associates, and then after sweeping off all the scum and stirring up all the dregs and feculence of rebellion, you must betake yourself to Manlius, and then you must proclaim war against the Senate,

and the State, and then take care not to say that you had been cast out and vomited forth of the city, but that you had arrived in correspondence to your own wishes, and in compliance with their invitation.

Yet how ridiculous is it to urge this man faster to that ruin which he himself anticipates? Is there not, at this instant, an armed detachment waiting for you at the Aurelian Forum? Have not you and Manlius fixed upon a day for your march, and has it not already been preceded by the domestic shrine of thy impieties, the silver eagle before which you made your vows of murder, and lifted up the hands ready to be dyed in the blood of your countrymen, that silver eagle which I trust will spread its ill omened wing over your cause and shame its worshipper. Yes you will go, I confide in your unbridled fury, your dire and dauntless audacity. Miserable you must be without a civil war, for which nature has formed and fashioned you, education improved you, and your good fortune presented to you. You will crown a life spent in licentious leisure, in lazy lust and groveling debauchery, by the felicity of monstrous and unnatural war: and it were pity that a gang so carefully selected from all that is base and sordid in humanity, should pass their lives in obscure and perishable infamy, which might have been recorded for crimes more consequential and extended.

There, what joys await you! what delights will you not experience, without encountering the silent conclusion of one good man's eye! For this, great man, have been destined your studies by day, your watchings by night, nobler objects than a riot and a rape, than waiting by the bed of adultery or haunting the dying to rob the dead. Hunger and cold, and fatigue, will here meet with their reward, but the republic through me has its reward also, that Cataline is not warring against it, in the station of a consul, but as an infamous and ignominious exile, and that what might have been civil war, is now but a factious rebellion.

And now, Conscript Fathers! that I may stand acquitted before the judg-

ment seat of my country and my own conscience for what I have done, and for what I am about to do; that I may deprecate all complaint, and all indignation, lend me I pray you, your attention, for a little longer, and let the words I am going to say impress themselves on the hearts of all who hear me.

Were that country for whom I live, or die, were all Italy, were this majestic empire to address me, in such words as these, "What, Marcus Tullius, what my son, are you throwing your country's great revenge away? Him, of all men your most decided enemy. Him, an all but convicted traitor. Him, who has debauched the genius of the common weal, and deflowered the honour of the state. Him the very head and front of conspiracy, and rebellion. Him, who throws open our prison doors, and lets loose our slaves to crush us, with their fetters. Him, do you suffer him to march out to civil war as if he marched in for a triumph? Not yet bound! Not yet dragged to the altar! Not yet pouring out his blood before the infernal deities! and why? Because precedents are wanting? No. The blood of every traitor shed in times past, by the swords even of common citizens will answer, no. Is it then the law shielding the head of every Roman citizen? No; Cataline, and his crew, are not citizens, but rebels and revolters. Do you then fear the condemnation of posterity? O Cicero! poor is the return you make to that country which has lifted you without the aid of ancestry, without any other help than your own abilities, through all the gradations of civil life, and seated you thus opportunely on the summit of the empire, if you cannot encounter the reproaches of a few, while you are devoting yourself to the welfare of the whole. Rather than be subjected to the disgrace of relaxing the authority of law, show the stern severity of public justice, or (if such be your choice) wait until our country be laid waste, our cities sacked, our houses in flames, and then, and then only, will your name become odious indeed."

Now, mark my answer to this re-

vered and parental voice. I would not allow the life of this man, the prolongation of a single hour, if I judged the present hour the most proper to take it away. If the prime and master spirits of the age they lived in, not only were not disgraced, but were glorified by the sacrifice of Saturninus, of Flaccus, and of the Gracchi, much less ought I to suspend the sword over this parricide, and though I might happen to encounter public odium, I am the man who knows it is sometimes the truest glory to have merited it.

I know full well that some there are, even in this assembly, who either do not or will not see the impending danger, who are of such mild and milky natures as to nurse the hopes of Cataline; and under the sanction of such unsuspecting tempers, the wicked and the weak among us will exclaim, that immediate judgment upon him would not be merely cruel, but the act of a royal despot. Now, I am convinced, that, if this man proceeds, as he intends, to the camp of Manlius, there will not be one so very stupid, as not to see a conspiracy framed against the state, nor one so very wicked, as not to wish it repressed. I am also convinced, that were this man cut off, on the instant, the hydra of public calamity would lose only one head, while others would spring up, and pullulate in its place; but if he should not only himself evacuate the city, but collect into one place all of depraved character, and desperate fortune, then would the evil be completely eradicated, and the seed-plot of sedition be blasted and destroyed.

I know not how it happens, conscript fathers, but every stratagem of sedition, every inalignant conspiracy, that has fostered in the body politic, for a length of time, seems to have ripened, and fully matured, during the period of my consulship. I know well, that by giving free exit to this boil, the suffering state might be lightened and refreshed for a season; but here is a malady that has infected the very vitals, and taints the whole with such venom, that the excision even of this man, would be only a poor palliative, that might exasperate, but never would completely eliminate the disorder.

On this account, and this only, let the wicked depart. Let them be compressed into one body, and herd in one place. Let the city walls, as I have said, keep us and them asunder. No longer let them lie in wait for the consul at his very door; no longer beset the praetor in his seat of justice; no longer let our citizens stand as if on the point of these men's daggers; no longer let combustibles be prepared, and faggots laid up for setting our streets in a blaze. In short, let us, in times as these, read the principles of every citizen engraved upon his forehead, and then, behold in me, an auspicious augur, that such must be the consequence, of consular vigilance, senatorial authority, and equestrian valour, every thing will become clear and manifest, the machinations of evil men will be blasted, and the honour of Rome avenged.

Lucius Cataline! begin, as soon as you are able, this damnable, and unnatural war. Begin it, on your part, under the shade of every dreadful omen: on mine, with the sure and certain hope of safety to my country and glory to myself, and when this you have done, then, do Thou, whose altar was first founded by the founder of our state—Thou, the stablisher of this city, pour out thy vengeance upon this man and all his adherents. Save us from his fury, our public altars, our sacred temples, our houses, and household gods, our liberties, our lives. Pursue, tutelal god, pursue them, these foes to the gods, and goodness, these plunderers of Italy, these assassins of Rome. Erase them out of this life, and in the next, let thy vengeance pursue them, insatiable, implacable, immortal!

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

EIGHTH REPORT FROM THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, IN IRELAND.

To his Grace Charles Duke of Richmond and Lennox, &c Lord Lieutenant general, and general governor of Ireland.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR GRACE,

WE the undersigned commissioners, appointed for inquiring into the several funds and revenues granted by public or private donations for the purposes of education

and into the state and condition of all schools on public or charitable foundations, in Ireland, beg leave to lay before your grace our report upon the foundling hospital, in the city of Dublin.

The institution which is the subject of this report, was considered by the former commissioners for inquiring into the state of schools, as not properly falling within the scope of their inquiry, its original object and destination, as implied in its titles, not appearing to include education in the *proper* sense of the word, and its actual conduct and management from its first establishment until that time, and for some years after, not being directed to that object in any sense of it. In its present state, however, it appears to form a proper and most important branch of the great object of our inquiry, and to demand a very full and particular report, which we trust will apologise to your grace for our going at some length into a detail as well of its progress to that highly improved state in which we now find it, as of the particulars in which that improvement consists.

The foundling hospital, which stands in an airy, elevated, and healthful situation on an area of about fourteen acres (including garden) at the west end of Jame's street, was erected in the year 1704, during the administration of James Duke of Ormond. It was originally designed not only for the reception of deserted and vagrant children, but for the maintenance of adults, who were disabled by age and infirmities from earning subsistence by labour, and also for the confinement and correction of vagrants. The constitution and objects of the establishment have undergone a variety of alterations by sundry acts of parliament; but under the 15th and 16th George III. chap. 25 (Irish statute) which recites, "That whereas the number of children of the age of six years and under (who were admissible as the law then stood) have of late years increased so far beyond the expectation of the said governors, that the expense of maintaining them has exceeded every provision that could be made (exclusive of grants

of parliament) and enacts, "That from and after the 24th of June, 1776, there shall not be received into said hospital, or sent to nurse therefrom, any child who shall appear to be above the age of one year old," it seems to have finally assumed the character of a foundling hospital.

The funds consist of a tax on houses in the city of Dublin, an annual grant from parliament, and the income of a small estate in the neighbourhood of the hospital, for the particulars and amount of which we refer to the appendix, No. 1.

We deem it unnecessary minutely to state the history of this establishment through the successive variations it has from time to time undergone; it will be sufficient to state that the vices in the constitution, and the abuses in the management of it, attracted the notice of the Irish parliament in the year 1797, and by an act passed in the 38th George III. chap. 35, and founded on the inquiry and report of a committee of the house of commons, the former corporation of governors, which consisted of nearly two hundred persons, was dissolved, and the whole conduct of the institution was vested in *nine persons*, named in the said act, and their successors to be elected in the manner therein appointed.

This act, which was temporary, was continued in the following session, and by the 40th George III. chap. 33, was amended and further continued to the 24th of June 1810, and to the end of the then next session of parliament. By the second section of this last-mentioned act, the chancellor of the exchequer of Ireland for the time being was added to, and associated with, the nine governors named in the 38th George III.

By the 41st George III. chap. 50, the governors or any five or more of them are authorized to elect three other fit and proper persons to be governors of said hospital (sect 2) who must be approved of by the lord lieutenant for the time being (sect 3).

Under the 40th George III. chap. 33, as amended by the said last mentioned act, the institution has ever

since been conducted. This act (on which it is to be observed the institution rests) will expire at the end of the session of parliament, that follows the 24th of June next, unless it shall be in the mean time continued by a new law.

Experience has proved in this, as well as in many other instances, that a numerous corporation is by no means calculated to conduct any charitable institution with advantage. Responsibility so divided is felt by none, and we are informed, that (except when offices of emolument were to be disposed of) it was difficult out of a board consisting of nearly two hundred governors to procure the attendance of *five* once in a quarter, to transact the ordinary business of the establishment.

The objects of such an institution being two-fold, first, to save the lives of deserted and exposed children; secondly, to educate them in such a manner as to render them useful members of society, it appears that neither the one nor the other were effectually attained under the former corporation.

But the reform of this institution in all its departments was undertaken with zeal, and pursued with assiduity. Several ladies of distinction devoted their time and attention to the reform of the abuses that had prevailed in the infant department, and to the regulation of the female schools; and since the enactment of the 38th George III. there has been, with very few exceptions, a regular attendance of governors once in every week at the hospital.

In the management of the infant department glaring abuses prevailed, it was these which principally attracted the notice of parliament, excited a considerable degree of public indignation at the time, and called into action the zeal and exertions which have so happily accomplished their reform. These evils being now completely done away, it is no longer necessary to dwell upon them with minuteness; but it is indispensibly necessary to bring them forward in a concise and general way, in order to convey a just notion of the difficulties under which the institution

now labours, from the great and growing increase of numbers occasioned by the adoption of those measures of reform.

First. No sufficient care was taken to regulate the conveyance of infants from distant parts to the capital; the grossest negligence and inhumanity were found to prevail in the conduct of the women employed for this purpose; hence several of the children sent up from remote parts died on the road, others almost immediately after their being delivered at the hospital. The attention of the governors and the surgeon was immediately directed to the correction of these abuses; several regulations were adopted with a view to this object, the effect of which in the course of the first year was such, that (to adopt the expression of one of the early publications of the governors) "after the closest inspection little difference could on admission be perceived between the infants who had been carried upwards of fifty miles, and those born in the county and county of the city of Dublin."

Secondly. A most erroneous and vicious management prevailed in the whole conduct of the infant department; a majority of the infants received were abandoned as hopelessly afflicted with the venereal disease; whereas a more accurate investigation of the symptoms on which this conclusion was founded, established beyond controversy in the course of the first six months the following fact, "That not more than one in eleven were contaminated with this disease;" and a continuance of the same accurate observation reduced the proportion still further, inasmuch, that at the end of the third half year from the commencement of the new regulations (and which ended the 8th of January 1799) it was clearly established that but one in twenty nine of those admitted were so infected; and subsequent observation reduced the proportion of venereals still further. The effect of this reform in reducing the mortality among the infants will appear from a comparison of the following tables printed in the pamphlet already referred to.

Table of Admissions of Children into the Foundling Hospital from 1785 to 1797, inclusive, stating the Deaths which took place in each year in the Infant Nursery, and Infant Infirmary:

| YEARS, | Total admitted in each Year. | Deaths in the Infant Nursery, not Venereal. | Deaths in the Infant Infirmary, supposed to be Venereal | Total of the Deaths in the Nursery and Infirmary |
|--------|------------------------------|---|---|--|
| 1785 | 1,900 | 59 | 300 | 359 |
| 1786 | 2,150 | 48 | 493 | 541 |
| 1787 | 2,051 | 65 | 344 | 409 |
| 1788 | 2,144 | 112 | 565 | 677 |
| 1789 | 2,134 | 273 | 652 | 925 |
| 1790 | 2,187 | 396 | 549 | 945 |
| 1791 | 2,199 | 496 | 779 | 1,205 |
| 1792 | 1,998 | 490 | 861 | 1,231 |
| 1793 | 2,905 | 484 | 803 | 1,387 |
| 1794 | 2,253 | 382 | 908 | 1,235 |
| 1795 | 2,101 | 411 | 959 | 1,470 |
| 1796 | 2,037 | 369 | 910 | 1,279 |
| 1797 | 1,922 | - | - | 1,457 |

From the foregoing tables it appears that the mortality among the infants in the house, had in the half year ending the 8th of July 1797 amounted to three fourths of the number admitted, the admissions within that period having amounted to 1922 and the deaths to 1459; whereas in the first half year in which the new system was adopted,

the deaths amounted to a little more than half of the whole, the admissions being within that period 802 and the deaths comparing 418, and from the following table continued to the 8th of July 1808 it will appear that the mortality among the infants in the house though fluctuating has been still farther diminished.

Amount of the Deaths of Infants which occurred at the Foundling Hospital in Dublin, from 9th July 1798 to the 8th July 1808.

| YEARS. | DEATHS. | ADMISSIONS. |
|-----------------------------|---------|-------------|
| 1 Year ending 8th July 1799 | 434 | 1,471 |
| 2 - - - 1800 | 491 | 2,054 |
| 3 - - - 1801 | 520 | 1,940 |
| 4 - - - 1802 | 356 | 1,430 |
| 5 - - - 1803 | 910 | 2,214 |
| 6 - - - 1804 | 373 | 1,947 |
| 7 - - - 1805 | 368 | 2,017 |
| 8 - - - 1806 | 510 | 2,168 |
| 9 - - - 1807 | 462 | 2,161 |
| 10 - - - 1808 | 623 | 2,336 |
| TOTAL | 5,042 | 19,639 |

Thirdly, Other salutary regulations contributed to augment the number of lives preserved, among these, one of the principal was the employment of house wet nurses instead of spoonfeeding; the wages also of the country nurses were increased on the 8th of September 1797 from two to three pounds per annum, and a bounty of two pounds was allowed to every wet nurse who

produced the child entrusted to her in good health, with every appearance of having been well attended to at the end of the year. Thus the regulations respecting carriage, reduced the mortality of infants consigned to this institution previous to admissions; the reform in the internal management, that of infants in the house and the increased pay of the country nurses,

with additional caution in selecting proper persons for that purpose, contributed to produce the same effect among the children sent to the country. Such as wish for more particular information upon the foregoing topics, we beg leave to refer to the publication already cited (Appendix, No. 11) and to another printed by the governors in the year 1799, and presented in that year, with their petition to the Irish parliament. See Appendix No. 10.

The foregoing observations present a succinct view of the improvements introduced into the infant department of the hospital, and the consequent increase of numbers resulting from that cause. But this was but the first branch of reform; the preservation of life necessarily claimed priority of attention, but it is obvious that this should not be the sole object of such an institution, and that to educate the children thus preserved, in such a manner as to render them useful members of society is still of higher importance; but this object was very imperfectly attained and in many instances altogether abandoned by the former governors. First, the children were not drafted into the hospital till the age of nine or ten years at soonest, at which period bad habits were frequently acquired, and the whole work of education was to be begun. Secondly, a great majority of the children were apprenticed at twelve years of age, and many in a few weeks after admissions into the schools: they were apprenticed out on the recommendation of a single governor, without due inquiry into the character or circumstances of the person applying; there was no fixed rule as to the period of their continuance at the schools; the principal object was to apprentice a sufficient number in each year to make room for those who were to be drafted in from the country; thus as the defects in the management of the infant department prevented the accumulation of numbers on the general establishment, this summary and precipitate mode of disposing of the children received into the Schools, kept down the numbers maintained in the house. The difficulties under which the institution has laboured of late years

were unknown, and the expences of conducting it were comparatively small. But the effects of the reform in the management of the infant department soon began to be felt throughout the whole of the establishment; the increase in the number of lives saved annually augmented the sum paid to the country nurses, but the further consequences of this increase of numbers could hardly escape the most superficial observation; the period was not very distant when this accumulation of numbers was to be provided for within the establishment. The age at which children were then drafted into the house was ten years; it was much to be desired that the should be taken in at an earlier period; by allowing them to remain so long with their nurses, habits were contracted unfavourable to the progress of their education in the house, but under the actual circumstances of the hospital in point of accommodation and funds, it would have been necessary annually to postpone instead of accelerating the period of reception. The hospital was then capable of accommodating only from six hundred to six hundred and fifty children. In the course of the year 1803, on examining the tables of mortality kept since the commencement of the measures of reform in 1797, it was computed that about one in five, or thereabouts of the whole number received, at the gate would be alive (and to be drafted into the house) at the age of ten years*; this would give an annual average of about four hundred to be drafted, the average of † admissions being about two thousand; but unless the children already

* The number of children who actually attain the age of ten years is greater than in this proportion; but some are returned to their parents every year, and some are withheld by their nurses, sometimes in consequence of a strong attachment to them having been formed, and sometimes in consequence of their having become useful; these two causes reduce the number to be annually drafted, so as to render the foregoing computation to be not very far from the truth, absolute precision is manifestly unattainable.

† The term "admission" is applied to the first reception of the infants at the

in the schools were turned out without any or with little education, and apprenticed to such persons as might offer to take them without discrimination or selection, not more than half this number could be actually received, consequently half of the children of ten years of age must have remained with their nurses, and in the following year all the children who would then have attained that age. Thus in the course of a few years the funds, extent of accommodation, and other circumstances of the institution remaining the same, the period of *drafting* must have been so postponed as completely to have prevented the education of great numbers, and many must have become adults in the country, without having participated of any portion of instruction from the institution.

These circumstances we find were stated by memorial of the governors to his excellency Earl Hardwicke, when Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, early in 1803, and by petition to parliament in the following session 1804. In consequence of which the annual grant was augmented by an addition of five thousand pounds, which has been since continued. See said petition to parliament, Appendix No. 2.*

This grant was calculated at the then price of provisions and other necessities of life, to enable the governors to defray the expences of the establishment; consisting of the numbers as then augmented in consequence of the regulations of 1797, and to maintain and educate in the house for four years twelve hundred children, proposed to be received from the nurses at eight and apprenticed at twelve years of age; and as the period for drafting the additional number would not arrive for two years after the grant,

gate: the term "*drafting*" to their removal from the care of the country nurses into the house.

* See Appendix, No. 1, and the explanatory letter of Mr Hendrick.

and the children received in 1798 subsequent to the adoption of the measures of reform would not complete their eighth year till 1806 the governors were enabled, out of the annual savings, to finish the accommodation for twelve hundred children, to enlarge the chapel then in a ruinous state and calculated for a much smaller establishment, and to commence immediately to receive children at eight instead of ten years of age.

Out of this measure, however, circumstances arose which were altogether unexpected, which could neither be foreseen nor provided against, and which necessarily led to further expenditure in order to make the establishment completely fitted to fulfil the expectations held out to parliament in the petition presented in the session of 1804. A severe malady (chiefly dysentery, but assuming different shapes, and supposed to be occasioned by the change of diet and mode of living) broke out among the younger children in the two years in which this early drafting took place, which spread among the grown children and also the adults of the establishment. The former infirmary accommodation was found utterly inadequate; several of the dormitories, designed for and ordinarily appropriated to the use of the healthy, were converted into temporary hospitals for the sick; in spite of vigilance, attention, and care, the mortality, as we are informed, was considerable and alarming in both years, and it was found impracticable to conduct the institution upon the enlarged plan without a new and much more extensive infirmary.

The number of lives preserved has also considerably exceeded the calculation; the sum paid for nurses wages in the year ending the 5th January 1803, was eight thousand one hundred and forty three pounds eleven shillings and sixpence; whereas in every succeeding year it has successively increased, as will appear from the following table.

Amount of Wages paid for nursing Children, to the following Periods.

| | Half Year ending 24th June 1798 | | | | 561 | 15 | — |
|--|---------------------------------|--|--|--|--------|----|-----|
| | One Year ending 24th June 1798 | | | | 5,400 | 14 | 11½ |
| | — . 25th March 1800 | | | | 5,034 | 8 | 11 |
| | — . 31st December 1800 | | | | 6,646 | 7 | 2 |
| | — . 5th January 1802 | | | | 8,753 | 1 | 9 |
| | — . 5th do. 1803 | | | | 8,143 | 11 | 6 |
| | — . 5th do. 1804 | | | | 9,053 | 8 | 10 |
| | — . 5th do. 1805 | | | | 10,511 | 13 | 6 |
| | — . 5th do. 1806 | | | | 12,132 | 10 | 1 |
| | — . 5th do. 1807 | | | | 14,948 | 4 | 5 |
| | — . 5th do. 1808 | | | | 18,558 | 1 | 4 |
| | — . 5th do. 1809 | | | | 14,553 | 19 | 11 |

The infirmary is roofed in, but the inside work is not completed; the expense thereby incurred, together with the increased demand for pay of the country nurses has occasioned an excess of the annual expenditure above the income for the last two years, inasmuch that it appears that on the 5th of January 1808 the institution was indebted to the amount of nine thousand four hundred and thirty-five pounds nineteen shillings and tenpence halfpenny, including the amount of the wages then due to the nurses in the country, but not paid until the 24th of June following; and on the 5th of January 1809 to the amount of ten thousand eight hundred and seventy-six pounds three shillings and eight pence, the amount of wages then due being also included, which debt will probably be not much reduced on the 5th of January 1810, although the governors have suspended the completion of the buildings already begun, and the draping of children, and also reduced their expenses in every instance in which it was practicable.

Their present embarrassment seems to have been almost unavoidable, and to have arisen from three causes.

1st. The increased demand for the pay of country nurses.

2dly. The increased price of the necessaries of life and of building materials.

3dly. The adoption of a plan for enabling them fully to meet the expectations of the public and their own ideas of duty, in providing accommodations suitable to the exigencies of the augmented establishment, without having taken into their view either of the foregoing considerations.

Such is the actual state of this institution with respect to funds at present, viz—

1st. A debt contracted. 2dly. Buildings necessary for the comfortable accommodation of twelve hundred children commenced, but not yet completed. 3dly. An income quite inadequate (loaded as it now is with a heavy debt) to complete the buildings necessary for conducting the institution or even to defray the ordinary expenses, of the establishment.

So far as the circumstances above stated arise from the expense incurred by building, they are of a temporary and accidental nature; so far as they are owing to the advance in the price of the necessaries of life, the cause is common to all other establishments; but the increase of expense arising from the diminution of mortality is a contingency to which this institution must always be subject, and there are other difficulties growing out of the very nature of the establishment, and requiring to be distinctly stated, which render it impracticable to form any correct estimate of the expense of maintaining it for any number of years to come, and which will require on the part of the governors the utmost vigilance and constant care and attention.

1st.—The estimate on which the governors proceeded when they presented their petition to parliament in 1803, and every estimate hitherto made of the expenses of conducting this establishment, has been founded on the supposition that the number of annual admissions would not on an average exceed two thousand. It will appear by the inspection of the

rejoined table that this supposition is supported by the experience of eight years ending 24th June 1807, as well as by the average of former years. But the same table will shew, that since that period a considerable

augmentation has taken place in the admissions, and that the number received in the year ending 31st December 1808 exceeded the average number of the preceding eight years by four hundred and fourteen.

children Admitted into the Foundling Hospital, distinguishing Males from Females; also distressed, exposed, and those sent in by the Father.

| | Admitted | Males. | Females. | Discharged | Exposed. | Sent in by the Father. |
|---------------------------------------|----------|--------|----------|------------|----------|------------------------|
| During the Year ending 24th June 1800 | 2,041 | 970 | 1,071 | 712 | 1,095 | 234 |
| " " " " " 1801 | 1,550 | 869 | 968 | 578 | 985 | 287 |
| " " " " " 1802 | 1,432 | 696 | 736 | 475 | 701 | 256 |
| " " " " " 1803 | 2,178 | 1,003 | 1,175 | 592 | 1,267 | 319 |
| " " " " " 1804 | 1,956 | 923 | 1,033 | 547 | 1,119 | 290 |
| " " " " " 1805 | 2,080 | 949 | 1,071 | 614 | 1,178 | 228 |
| " " " " " 1806 | 2,168 | 1,048 | 1,120 | 630 | 1,269 | 269 |
| " " " " " 1807 | 2,164 | 972 | 1,192 | 661 | 1,301 | 262 |
| Six Months ending 31st December 1807 | 996 | 467 | 529 | 307 | 574 | 113 |
| Year ending 31st December " 1808 | 2,390 | 1,081 | 1,309 | 760 | 1,480 | 300 |
| Quarter ending 31st March " 1809 | 569 | 276 | 293 | 185 | 336 | 48 |

(Signed) P. CRAWLEY, Porter of the Foundling Hospital.

A proportionate increase has taken place in the months which have already expired of the current year, as we are informed, but a sufficient period has not yet elapsed to justify any conclusion as to its probable permanence. If in the course of a year or two the number should return to its former average or sink below it, the general circumstances of the establishment would not be materially affected by such a temporary fluctuation; but if it should continue for a number of years together, the whole plan of education would be overthrown, or at least rendered extremely imperfect, and the difficulties which it was the object of the increased establishment to remove would return with a considerable force. To explain this it must be remembered, that but twelve hundred can be accommodated in the house, and that this number would be kept up by the annual drafting of four hundred children; that four hundred at least would be annually furnished out of a admission of two thousand, and

that the addition of four hundred more admitted would give eighty additional drafts, one in five being supposed to live to eight years. The increase would not be felt in the house for seven years, but then it would be necessary either to apprentice out children who had not been four years in the house, or to leave eighty children, who ought to be taken in, without education in the country, and this number would (on the hypothesis on which we are now proceeding); be augmented every year, if therefore the admissions should continue to increase, the difficulty could be met in two ways only.

By increasing the house accommodation, or by limiting the admissions, which are at present without any restriction.

The former method is liable to great and obvious objections ; it would probably be deemed advisable to resort to the latter, and to a country circumstanced as this is, where unlimited admission has prevailed for a great number of years, it will be extreme-

ly difficult to devise any mode of restraint which will not be liable to considerable objections.

2dly.—As the average number of two thousand admissions gives an annual average of at least four hundred drafts at eight years of age, it is plain, that whenever the house shall be filled up to the establishment of twelve hundred, the *drafting* cannot be carried on unless four hundred children shall be apprenticed in every year; this exposes the plan to great uncertainty. The average number hitherto apprenticed has never amounted to one hundred and thirty, as will appear by the subjoined table; there must be a great increase of demand for apprentices, in order to establish an outlet for a sufficient number; however as during a considerable portion of the period on which this observation is founded, there was not a sufficient number of children properly qualified in point of age and education on the list, and as the improved

character of the institution and the good conduct of several lately apprenticed has, as we are informed, given birth to many applications for apprentices, which under the actual circumstances of the Hospital could not be complied with there is reason to hope that this difficulty will be surmounted.

3dly.—The present wages of the country nurses (except for the first year) is but three pounds per annum and at this very moderate expense the children are maintained and (in some sort) clothed to the age of eight years; at present the children of the foundling hospital are much sought for by the poor, but if from any change in the circumstances of the labouring classes in the province of Leinster, the maintenance of a child at three pounds should cease to be an object, the expence of the institution must necessarily be increased by augmenting the pay of the country nurses.

The number of Males and Females apprenticed to Trades and Services from the foundling Hospital for seven years, ending the 10th of October 1808.

| | 1801 | 1802 | 1803 | 1804 | 1805 | 1806 | 1807 | 1808 |
|---------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Males apprenticed to Services | 30 | 42 | 89 | 47 | 45 | 32 | 24 | 5 |
| Females apprenticed to Services | 19 | 58 | 103 | 111 | 108 | 94 | 34 | 12 |
| Males apprenticed to Trades | 7 | 23 | 15 | 23 | 34 | 14 | 7 | 17 |
| Females apprenticed to Trades | — | 1 | 3 | 8 | 2 | — | — | 4 |
| | 56 | 124 | 212 | 189 | 189 | 140 | 65 | 48 |

Number of Children supposed to be at Nurse the 10th of October 1808 5,040

Male Children in the House the 19th April 1809. 327

Female do do do. 400

Of whom there were in the Infirmary 68

(Signed) J. A. BALLIE, Register of the Foundling Hospital
19th April, 1809.

Infant Department.

All infants under the age of one year presented at the gate of the foundling hospital are admitted, a registry is kept by the porter, in which are noted the number received (distinguishing males from females, and those that are exposed from such

as are delivered by their parents) and the places from whence they come, the surgeon (who is not a resident officer) attends daily, and examines the children received. If found to be in health they are sent to the country to be wet-nursed; if diseased, or if their situation in

of health be doubtful, they are named in what is termed, "the infant department of the hospital" under the care of the surgeon and a dental apothecary; a proper number of wet-nurses are always employed in the house for the management of the sickly or doubtful children, and as soon as their health is sufficiently established they are sent to country.

Of such country nurses there is always a sufficient number attending to the expectation of employment. They come from all the counties in Leinster (except the county of Kilkenny) but chiefly from the county of Dublin, and those immediately bordering on Wicklow, Kildare, and Meath; the stated wages of the nurses are five pounds per annum, and at this all annual expense every child is maintained till the period arrives of sending them into the hospital, except during the first year; but at the end of that year, in addition to the annual wages, the wet-nurses receive a bounty of two pounds each, provided the child is produced at the hospital in good health, and with every appearance of having been well nursed, and carefully attended to; as to which circumstances, after a strict examination, report is made by the surgeon.

All persons applying to be employed in the nursing or care of children must produce certificates of good character from some respectable resident clergy or farmers in the neighbourhood from whence they come. The children generally remain with them during the period of *drying* them into the house; in general a strong attachment is stated to be formed between the nurse and child, that the children sometimes become adopted to the families in which they are placed, that there are frequent instances of women relinquishing their wages rather than part with the children entrusted to their care, and that the separation seldom takes place without tears on both sides; no nurse receives her wages without producing the child at the hospital, they are paid once a year, and the period fixed is the summer months of June,

July, and August, when the days are long, and the weather and roads favourable for travelling. In the appendix, No. 3, will be found a table, showing the comparative number of admissions from the several counties in Ireland for nine years and a half, ending the 31st of December 1808.

Schools

When the children are drafted into the house, they are dispersed through the several schools. There are at present twelve female and four male schools, the numbers in which are various according to the state of the house, and the number of the schools is sometimes reduced according to circumstances. Each school is under the care of a master or mistress, assisted by monitors chosen from among the children. The female schools are under the immediate superintendence of the chaplain, who is answerable for their religious instruction; the male schools are also under the care of a superintendant; the arrangement with respect to the female schools was settled by the governors, with the approbation of the governors, immediately after the hospital was placed by the legislature under the present system of government in the year 1798.

The plan on which the male schools are conducted was not adopted till the year 1802, when the reverend Henry Murray was appointed superintendant, an office then first instituted by the governors from experience of the necessity of it, and from which it appears the most beneficial consequences have resulted; of this gentleman we feel ourselves bound to say, that this plan of instruction and the success which has attended it give him the strongest claim to public notice and patronage; by his single efforts, and without being indebted either to Doctor Bell, or Mr. Lancaster, he has introduced much that is truly valuable in their systems into the schools of the hospital; we had an opportunity of witnessing the progress of the children under his care, and found it to be fully answerable to the character we had heard of it. His method of instruction is detailed in a paper of his

own writing (see appendix, No. 8) and in which he gives due commendation to the system of teaching the children to write, which has been followed for some years with very great success.

Each of the female schools sends a certain number of girls in rotation every day to the laundry and to the spinning-school, the rest remain in the schools; part of the day is devoted to works of industry, and the greater part to instruction in reading, writing, arithmetic, and the principles of the Protestant religion; the boys likewise are alternately employed at their respective trades, and at school, each child receiving three days school instruction in the week. For further detail as to the plan of education, we refer to the appendix, No. 8.

The principle on which the governors set out, when they presented their petition to earl Hardwicke, preparatory to their petition to parliament in the year 1803, was, that each child should receive four years education, being taken in at the age of eight, and apprenticed at the age of twelve years. The house being capable of accommodating but twelve hundred children, and about four hundred being the annual average number to be drafted in, it is obvious that the circumstances of the institution do not admit of the period allotted to education being any longer protracted; and as half of this period is devoted to industry, it requires sedulous exertion on the part of all those employed in the education of the children to improve the short space of time allowed for this purpose to the best advantage; nor does this exertion appear to be wanting in any branch of this department. The duties of the chaplain (under whose superintendence the education of the females is placed) being also discharged in the most exemplary manner by the Reverend Henry Crofton, who has filled that office for upwards of thirty years. The proficiency of the children of both sexes, especially in religious knowledge, has excited the warmest approbation of all those who have attended the examination at the found-

ling hospital; and 'at the annual catechetical examination of children selected from all the schools on charitable foundations in the metropolis and its vicinity, the progress of the children of the founding hospital has been particularly distinguished. The fruits of this sedulous care of their education are stated to have been happily experienced in the conduct of many of the children who have of late years been apprenticed from the house, among whom it appears, that there have been several eminent and satisfactory instances of exemplary good conduct and fidelity, which has been rewarded by the confidence and friendship of their employers and their own advancement in life.*

The separation between the male and female schools is complete; there are distinct play-grounds for each sex, quite inaccessible to the other.

Woollen Factory.

The woollen factory at the founding hospital was established in the year 1799. The present superintendent was engaged in May 1802. It comprises the manufacturing of broad cloth, camblet, and flannel, and supplies the hospital with cloth for the boys clothing, camblet for the girls gowns, &c. and flannel for the infants. There are at least one hundred boys employed in the factory, fifty working each day alternately; on the other days of the week they are at school. They are thus trained for woollen, cotton, or silk manufacturers, many of the boys at the time of their being apprenticed have been able to earn, as stated to us, from one guinea to thirty snillings per week; every boy is allowed one-sixth of his earnings, of which a regular account is kept by the superintendent, out of which he is paid two-pence per week, and the remainder is laid by and paid on his leaving the hospital.

The factory has considerably increased the demand for apprentices, the useful habits of industry, thus acquired, hold out a greater inducement

*See Appendix, No. 7.

ment to the industrious manufacturers than a fee.

There are likewise about eighty of the female children employed in spinning, carding, and reeling the yarn or the supply of the looms; the age of the boys employed is from seven to twelve years, of the girls from seven to ten years. The attention of the girls after that period is more particularly directed to improvement in needle-work; the nett profit to the hospital, after defraying every expence of attendance, repairs, and the superintendant's salary, is about one hundred and fifty pounds per annum.†

Several of the commissioners whose names are subscribed to this report visited the hospital on the 20th of July last, and were struck with the order and regularity which every where prevailed, as well as with the neatness and healthy appearance of the children in the schools and work-rooms. The whole economy indeed of the hospital appeared truly admirable, and reflects the highest credit on those respectable persons, of each sex, who have for some years devoted their time and attention to the preservation of the lives of so many human beings and to their subsequent education in such habits and branches of instruction, as cannot fail to render them useful and valuable to society.

Apprentices.

We find that great care is now exercised by the governors in the choice of the persons to whom they apprentice the children; a certificate as to the character and morals, and also as to the ability of the person applying to maintain and instruct an apprentice in the trade which he professes to teach, signed by the minister and churchwardens of the parish in which the applicant resides, is always required. In addition to these precautions, the Officers of the establish-

ment, in their turns, visit the abodes of the persons applying (when resident in the city of Dublin), and after having inspected the accommodation, and made further and more minute inquiry into the character and circumstances of the applicants, send in to the governors a report in writing, signed by them respectively, without receiving, which no order is made for granting an apprentice.

Notwithstanding all these precautions, disappointments are sometimes found to occur; and, indeed, among a great number of children it is to be expected that some will turn out ill; but this failure is in several instances to be attributed to the neglect, caprice, and ill-treatment of their employers.

An inspection of the state of all the children apprenticed from the hospital was made about eight years ago by the officers of the house, under the direction of the governors of the hospital; and a report made founded thereon; and since that period much information has been obtained casually, and by the exertions of individuals, as to the situation of the apprentices. But there is no stated general provision, connected with the establishment, for continuing the superintending care and protection of the governors over their children, after they have left the hospital; the measure is not free from difficulties; in the course of a few years, there will be two thousand five hundred apprentices dispersed over all parts of Ireland. But we are confident that means may be devised for overcoming them; and we trust, that the attention of the governors which has been so laudably exercised in the reformation of this establishment, and in advancing it to its present state of order and improvement, will continue to be directed with the same zeal and judgment to supply what is yet wanting to complete the system. The measures pursued by the governors of the Foundling Hospital in London for the purpose, are recommended as highly deserving their consideration.

We subjoin a statement of the salaries, wages, and emoluments of the officers and servants, schoolmas-

† The articles manufactured here appear to be at least equal in point of quality to any of the same description in the city of Dublin: and the livery clothes made here are of such a quality as to induce (as we are informed) many gentlemen to purchase them in preference to those in the shops.

ters and mistresses on the 5th of April, 1809, (appendix, no. 4), also all the dietaries of all the different descriptions of persons in the house (appendix, no. 5.), also a return of the number of children in the house on the 13th of April 1809 (appendix, no. 6), which number has been reduced somewhat since by the apprenticing of children, and will not be augmented this year, the governors having been obliged, in consequence of the state of their funds, to postpone the *drafting* of children till the year 1810; also a statement of the number of children supposed to be alive at nurse (appendix, no. 9.), which statement however is in some measure conjectural, and cannot be relied on as accurate. The provisions and almost all articles of consumption are supplied by contract, made after public advertisement. There is a garden of about three acres which supplies the hospital with vegetables in abundance; it is cultivated by a gardener, one labourer, and eighteen boys, nine of which are employed every day on the same principle that regulates the alternate succession of labour and school education throughout the house. The cheap rate at which children are reared in the country is what has enabled the governors to conduct the institution on terms of advantage to the public.—From the table already referred to (*supra*) which contains a statement of the different descriptions of children received, it appears that this institution is not confined to foundlings, properly so called, but affords relief to a considerable number of the poorest class of the community, overburthened with families greater than they are able to maintain.

Without deciding on the policy of such institutions in general, or even the expediency of establishing such an hospital in this country (if none such were in existence) it is manifest that the sudden abolition of it would be in the highest degree impolitic.

Besides relinquishing the positive advantage to society of sending every year into the community a number of well educated children, a sudden interruption of free admission at the gate, after such a resource having been so many years open to the poor and the profligate, would probably be followed by the abandonment of many infants. It follows necessarily that the institution must continue to be supported; and as the benefits resulting from the mere saving of lives, without suitable provision for their instruction, are comparatively inconsiderable, and as the whole course of education will be obstructed if the governors are not enabled to carry into effect the plan pointed out in their petition to parliament presented in the session of 1803; we cannot help submitting to the consideration of the legislature the expediency of such additional grant, in aid of the funds of this institution, as shall enable the governors to discharge the debt already contracted, and complete the buildings necessary for the accommodation of twelve hundred children; recommending at the same time strenuously that the attention of the governors should be speedily directed to the increased number of admissions at the gate, which has taken place since the first of January 1808, and the means of limiting and restraining admission, so far as shall appear practicable, consistently with humanity and sound policy.

Council Chamber, Dublin Castle, }
September 21st. 1809. } (Signed)

| | |
|--|---------|
| WM. ARMAGH. | (L. S.) |
| GEO. HALL, Provost, | (L. S.) |
| JAS. VERSCHOYLE } Dean of St. Patrick's | (L. S.) |
| WILLIAM DISNEY | (L. S.) |
| RICHD. L. EDGEWORTH | (L. S.) |

(A true Copy) W. Flint.
Irish Office, April 7th 1810.

APPENDIX, No. 3.

A Table, showing the Comparative Number of Admissions from the several Counties in Ireland, for nine years and a half, to 31st December 1808.

| County & City | 1800. | 1801. | 1802. | 1803. | 1804. | 1805. | 1806. | 1807. | Half year | 1808. | |
|------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----------|-------|--------|
| County of Dublin | 696 | 552 | 469 | 590 | 531 | 535 | 577 | 606 | 274 | 676 | 5,507 |
| Carlow | 29 | 37 | 17 | 40 | 31 | 30 | 44 | 34 | 17 | 28 | 308 |
| Kilkenny | 38 | 31 | 15 | 42 | 40 | 31 | 33 | 26 | 15 | 33 | 304 |
| Kildare | 56 | 50 | 33 | 53 | 51 | 62 | 63 | 62 | 25 | 80 | 541 |
| King's County | 29 | 37 | 27 | 40 | 31 | 35 | 40 | 39 | 11 | 56 | 343 |
| Queen's County | 38 | 26 | 22 | 42 | 39 | 32 | 43 | 51 | 16 | 46 | 329 |
| Louth | 55 | 44 | 29 | 55 | 51 | 42 | 39 | 51 | 20 | 49 | 436 |
| Longford | 12 | 14 | 15 | 23 | 13 | 22 | 24 | 24 | 10 | 26 | 183 |
| Meath | 68 | 43 | 42 | 58 | 52 | 56 | 42 | 50 | 32 | 59 | 502 |
| Westmeath | 30 | 32 | 15 | 24 | 24 | 26 | 26 | 16 | 16 | 25 | 234 |
| Wexford | 46 | 35 | 38 | 50 | 46 | 52 | 60 | 47 | 18 | 39 | 431 |
| Wicklow | 50 | 52 | 39 | 60 | 58 | 60 | 57 | 61 | 24 | 62 | 524 |
| Antrim | 90 | 72 | 59 | 73 | 81 | 89 | 83 | 82 | 38 | 100 | 779 |
| Armagh | 106 | 65 | 54 | 90 | 71 | 83 | 89 | 90 | 39 | 89 | 755 |
| Cavan | 52 | 63 | 44 | 97 | 71 | 83 | 89 | 109 | 50 | 95 | 732 |
| Down | 124 | 131 | 85 | 143 | 173 | 122 | 159 | 137 | 89 | 156 | 1,320 |
| Donegal | 47 | 50 | 35 | 59 | 37 | 52 | 53 | 42 | 21 | 48 | 444 |
| Londonderry | 61 | 48 | 28 | 46 | 37 | 55 | 49 | 62 | 17 | 54 | 457 |
| Fermanagh | 68 | 50 | 51 | 53 | 52 | 60 | 45 | 58 | 20 | 75 | 532 |
| Monaghan | 78 | 88 | 40 | 59 | 71 | 65 | 63 | 64 | 32 | 78 | 628 |
| Tyrone | 115 | 144 | 57 | 130 | 123 | 113 | 17 | 122 | 56 | 125 | 1,100 |
| Galway | 36 | 30 | 27 | 42 | 41 | 31 | 43 | 36 | 12 | 40 | 343 |
| Leitrim | 3 | 6 | 9 | 18 | 10 | 17 | 21 | 19 | 4 | 20 | 128 |
| Mayo | 9 | 7 | 4 | 9 | 9 | 8 | 6 | 11 | 8 | 16 | 87 |
| Roscommon | 12 | 14 | 11 | 25 | 18 | 21 | 24 | 27 | 11 | 32 | 195 |
| Sligo | 3 | 6 | 4 | 6 | 8 | 13 | 23 | 19 | 9 | 13 | 104 |
| Cork | 11 | 4 | 3 | 7 | 5 | 6 | 15 | 7 | 4 | 8 | 70 |
| Clare | 10 | 7 | 14 | 13 | 19 | 29 | 15 | 12 | 2 | 7 | 128 |
| Limerick | 5 | 19 | 77 | 119 | 58 | 130 | 154 | 104 | 45 | 129 | 818 |
| Tipperary | 39 | 42 | 42 | 63 | 51 | 48 | 51 | 60 | 36 | 75 | 506 |
| Waterford | 27 | 50 | 27 | 49 | 49 | 32 | 36 | 48 | 27 | 51 | 396 |
| Kerry | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | 2,041 | 1,850 | 1,432 | 2,178 | 1,950 | 2,020 | 2,168 | 2,164 | 996 | 2,390 | 20,195 |

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

REMARKS ON THE PLAN OF LANCASTER'S SCHOOLS.

THE subject of the Lancastrian school establishing in Belfast, having occasioned much conversation; I lately perused his book entitled "Improvements in Education," printed by subscription in 1805. I am disposed to attribute much merit to him and Dr. Bell for their plans, which have so materially tended to cheapen, and consequently facilitate education among the poorer classes. The mechanism as far as regards the system of teaching by lessons pasted on the walls, by writing on sand and slates, as also

the introduction of monitors appears to be excellent. But I have great doubts, that the very high stimulus of emulation which pervades his system, and I think is carried to an extreme, is in danger of doing hurt. Emulation in its farther boundary runs into envy,

"And slight partitions do their bounds divide."

Besides the very high excitement of his system of emulation may in time lose its effect, and do injury, either by producing indifference, or what is still worse, degenerating into the rancorous passion of envy in the minds of the children. On visiting Joseph Lancaster's school in the

Borough Road, London, I observed one mode of exciting emulation, which I much disliked. Two boys wrote on slates, in competition; these trials of skill were shown for judgment to himself, a monitor, or to a stranger who might happen to be present. The victor in whose favour the decision was made was authorized to pluck the hair of his vanquished competitor. While I was present this practice only produced a ludicrous effect by the one evading and the other striving to enforce this exhibition of mastership. I did not like this practice even in its most favourable shape, but I could readily suppose that much more injurious effects might result from such a struggle, and very hurtful passions be generated.

In making these remarks, and objecting to the system of emulation carried to an extreme point, in a plan of which in many parts I approve, I endeavour to use that discriminating process, which I think ought always to be exercised in examining any matter whether new or old. By the warm advocates of Lancaster I may probably be blamed, for there are bigots in all schemes as well as in all sects both in religion and politics. But I wish to caution against an indiscriminate adoption of any plan without stopping to inquire whether with much that is good, some striking defects may be not mixed up.

I am inclined to think that one great defect in Lancaster's system is to overlook the means in the eagerness to accomplish the end, and in the endeavour to have a showy appearance of teaching much in a short time to be too little scrupulous as to the moral disease which may be excited by the excessive stimulus. Emulation if pushed too far may produce incurable injury to the moral habits, and the character in future life may be considerably tainted. K.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

POTATOE OATS.

I HAVE seen an inquiry in your last number as to the origin of the species of oats so generally known under the aforesaid denomination. I am accidentally enabled to answer the ques-

tion by perusing the Obituary of the last London Monthly Magazine, in which I find the following article.—Died, at Troopland, in Cumberland Mary Jackson, aged 82 years, forty of which she had been a widow, and was greatly respected through life. She was the person who first discovered the method of rearing what are now called *potatoe oats*, so generally cultivated, and with such success in various parts of the kingdom. The circumstance which led to it was the deceased's observing a single stem of oats growing on a potatoe ridge, the seed of which had been conveyed thither by the wind. Observing that the straw was uncommonly strong, when the grain was matured, she preserved it, and used it for seed the ensuing season, which succeeding in a very extraordinary degree; the method was soon after adopted by numbers of farmers.

Thus we see that accident combined with judicious penetration succeeded in producing the discovery of a new variety of this valuable grain. To the same causes we are principally indebted for many valuable discoveries in manufactures, agriculture, and science.

A READER.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

ON THE BEST TIME FOR PAYMENT OF WAGES.

I AGREE with M. in your last number as to many of the inconveniences of paying workmen on Saturday evening, especially if their wages are not paid before a late hour. If they are at all paid on that day, they ought to be given at an early hour in the morning to allow the money to be usefully laid out in the market during the course of the day, when better bargains may be obtained than in the hurry of the evening. Some objections may be made to not paying wages till Monday morning. A dinner a little better than usual, is not an improper gratification to an industrious man surrounded by his family on his periodical day of rest. It occurs to me that in Belfast if wages were paid on ** Thursday evening*, pre-

** This is now the practice in the cotton*

viously to next day's market or on an early hour of the morning, many of the inconveniences pointed out by your correspondent might be obviated. K.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

A LITTLE learning is a dangerous thing; so said Pope, and I believe it has been very often verified since he made the observation.

How many useful members of the community have been diverted from their proper vocations, to pursue imaginary talents which they did not possess, and which like an *ignis fatuus* have bewildered them into all the misfortunes of their lives? First caught in the toils of vanity, they flatter themselves with being as great as those they imitated, and were not convinced of their ridiculous attempt, till they were laughed at and condemned by those whose approbation they endeavoured to solicit. An arrangement of words, a disposition of sentences, an adjustment of phrases, with a grammatical regularity may be caught, and produce a flowing set of rounded periods; but these will not communicate either a novelty of thought or a felicity of genius. Without these, scribbling is but imitation without instruction, daubing without design. A classical blockhead is of all others the most intolerable: the book-worm who quotes from Homer, Virgil, or Horace, without application, and whose conversation is made up of the shreds and lumber of the schools should be confined to his desk all his life: here, perhaps, he may trouble the world with what he may call his works; but this is not quite so pestiferous as his verbal bawling, as no man is compelled to read, though every one in company is compelled to hear. Thus scribbling he fancies he has reached the summit of Parnassus: till he is precipitated from his imaginary eminence by the periodical corrigitors, who with monthly scourges, reduce blockheads to their primitive stan-

mill of Messrs. Lepper, McCrum and co. Belfast: and in a few other manufactories in this town, the workmen receive part of their wages on Thursday evening under the denomination of market money.

dards! But lest you should think I am guilty of what I accuse others, I here drop the pen, and submit to be rejected a candidate for a place in your estimable Magazine, yours &c.

A CONSTANT READER.

Larne, 7th Aug. 1810.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

We give the following Oration to our readers, as developing the views of the more intelligent part of the American people, as to the state of their foreign and domestic policy. The Tammany Society is an association assuming this name, to commemorate the Indians, the ancient inhabitants of that country.

AN ORATION DELIVERED BEFORE THE TAMMANY SOCIETY, IN THE CITY OF NEW-YORK, ON THE TWELFTH OF MAY 1810, BY JOHN T. IRVING, ESQUIRE.

BROTHERS,

WE are here assembled to celebrate the anniversary of an institution whose object is a nation's prosperity, and whose supreme ambition a nation's glory.

It is an institution which professes a sincere attachment to the land in which we reside, and a perfect faith in the constitution by which we are governed. On an occasion of this kind, therefore, it is highly useful to consider, whether this land of our nativity or adoption, and the form of government we have chosen, are worthy of the sacred devotion we profess: whether our civil institutions will bear the test of dispassionate investigation, and are established on the strict principles of moral and political justice,—for, unless this can be manifested, our boasted advantages are but dreams and shadows, our patriotism but prejudice and infatuation.

But the necessary brevity of this address will not admit of an ample investigation of this nature—the scanty space of time to which I am limited will only allow me to seize the bold features of the subject and present them to your view.

The love of country is an universal passion, peculiar to no clime. It burns with equal fervour amid polar snows, as on the parching sands of the torrid zone. It is the sheet anchor of the heart which heaven has kindly given to moor each individual to his

proper situation,—to counteract that restless love of variety, that insatiable curiosity, that passion for novelty implanted in the human breast, and which otherwise would render mankind mere wanderers on the face of the earth. Where is the being, however seduced from the place of his nativity by the allurements of pleasure, the incitements of curiosity, or the avidity of gain—where is the exile however driven from the land of his fathers by the high hand of oppression, or the persecutions of an unfeeling world, whose heart does not, many a time and oft, in the hour of sickness, of solitude, or sorrow, return with weeping recollection to the scenes of his childhood, where his mind first dawned to the perception of natural and moral beauty—where he sported in the days of innocence, in the lustiness of youth, “when the young blood ran frolic through his veins, and all was sunshine!”—Who has relinquished his country without a sigh—who has heard of its oppression without sympathy—of its desolation without a pang?

“Breathes there the man, with soul so dead;

Who never to himself has said,

This is my own, my native land?

If such there breathes, go, mark him well,
For him no minstrel raptures swell;
High though his titles, proud his name,
Boundless his wealth as wish could claim—
Despite those titles, power and pelf,
The wretch concentred all in self,
Living shall forfeit fair renown,
And doubly dying, shall go down
To the vile earth, from whence he sprung,
Unwept, unhonoured and unsung.”

If a sentiment so generous and exalted can exist with sufficient force to bind the Siberian to his icy desert—to people the burning sands of Africa, where nature pants and animation languishes—if it can animate the song of the hardy Swiss, amid the stormy solitudes of his mountains, and can reconcile the minions of the east to the whips and chains of arbitrary power, how much more should it glow within our bosoms, on whom heaven has lavishly bestowed its choicest favours? To us has been given “the glory of Lebanon with the excellency of Carmel and Sharon.” A

country, whose varied and almost boundless surface, combines all that is magnificent and sublime, with all that is luxuriant and beautiful. A country where the rapid developments of art and science, the unparalleled advances of civilization and refinement, are constantly presenting new and captivating scenes to the eye of the curious, or the speculation of the philosophic. A country where independent competence is the sure reward of industry, where labour and enjoyment go hand in hand, and prompt fertility lightens the task of the husbandman.

But great as are the natural endowments of our country, they fade into comparative insignificance in the splendour of our political advantages. We have witnessed the sun of liberty dawning from amidst clouds and darkness, and gradually increasing and ascending into a bright and perfect day. After our painful revolutionary struggle, when the tumult and distraction of war had subsided, we found ourselves, possessed indeed of the rights for which we had contended, but those rights vaguely defined and imperfectly regulated. The season of war was past; the season of deliberation commenced; the states had maintained a faithful union through a tempestuous period, but that union had been preserved by the pressure of outward force, by a common sympathy and interest, and by an enthusiasm which such an occasion only could produce.

But now that the dread of external danger had subsided, the force which threatened having been withdrawn; now that private ambition had its play, that mutual jealousies were embodying themselves, that a load of foreign debt pressed upon the nation and its component parts hung disjointed, ready to be severed by every rising faction; now was the crisis when a people were to sacrifice secret views and selfish considerations on the altar of public good; now, rising superior to local interests, in their own sovereignty were they to establish a government for the whole, determine how their magistrates should be chosen, define their duties, and lastly enact laws to which themselves would become obedient.

surrounding nations with surprise
held an infant people just emerged
in the chaos and irritations of war,
proceeding with deliberative coolness,
investigate the defects of its munici-
pal institutions. But that surprise
changed into admiration when
they beheld this people relinquish
once an imperfect system, and
about a struggle build on the ruins
an old establishment, a structure
magnificent and sublime, which
I trust our children for ages shall ve-
nerate.

This constitution, my friends, is
our own intellectual offspring. By
you have secured to yourselves,
probably to millions unborn, the
possession of every rational privilege,
the enjoyment of every estimable
right. It is a code not produced
the strong arm of power, or ac-
companied by a sanguinary revolu-
tion, but the collective wisdom of a
people gathered in time of peace,
merits first carefully discussed,
then sanctioned by the unin-
fluenced approbation of the people.
This makes every man's domicil
sanctuary, not to be invaded
without his assent, nor taken from
for public purposes without an
adequate compensation.

This ensures to him the freedom
of speech and of the press, and a
protection by his peers for every infraction
of the law.

This at one blast sweeps away
all hopes of aristocratic distinction;
establishes sovereignty alone in the
people, and makes all authority emanate
from them.

This forms the criterion of law,
the barrier to usurpation, the rallying
point in the hour of peril, the very
basis of our union.

We have improved by the ex-
perience of other systems, we have
avoided their excellencies, and as care-
fully avoided their defects. Where,
could we ask, have ancient or modern
systems presented a purer model? What
government has evinced a due atten-
tion to some particular right of
individuals, that has not balanced it
by some particular oppression?

We shall exult in the freedom of

its constitution, the dignity and inte-
grity of its parliament; when that
parliament is the monopolized repre-
sentation of rotten boroughs, compos-
ed of a few scattered inhabitants,
while whole cities and districts, with the
thousands they contain, have no share
in the public councils.

Its historians and poets shall boast
of its elective franchise, when that
franchise is a mere vendible article,
continually in the market, almost ex-
posed to sale by the candle, and struck
off to the highest bidder.

Another shall be inflated with the
splendour of its military establishment,
while that establishment has trampled
upon its freedom, preyed upon the
necessities of its poor, given its youth
to the sword, and reared an iron usur-
pation which controuls the destinies of
Europe.

A third shall present a long line
of nobility, anxiously preserved from
plebeian intercourse, and pronounced
the substance of its strength and glory;
as if that merit which had achieved
honours to the primordial ancestor, was
a corporeal principle, could be the
subject of entailment, and was only
to be destroyed by a corruption of
blood—No! by the Almighty fiat, we
start upon existence on terms of per-
fect equality; and he only outstrips his
fellows and becomes ennobled in the
eye of heaven, who is distinguished
for his usefulness, and pre-eminent for
his virtues.

Experience has repeatedly proved
that worth and talents are not attached
to any particular line of ancestry; that
the wealth and honours of a meritorious
individual are often squandered and
disgraced by the profligacy of his des-
cendants; that he who estimates his
value by the lustre and antiquity of
his pedigree, has generally no other
standard. The revolution of France
has swept to oblivion a croud who
swarmed in the courts of Versailles,
and who existed but as the trappings
and paraphernalia of royalty.

Aware of the many evils that pro-
ceed from titled establishments; con-
vinced that they were excrescences
clinging to the body politic, and draw-
ing off that nourishment which should
be disseminated through its branches,

the constitution of these states has not only abolished such distinctions, but disqualified their possessors from holding any station of public confidence or trust. We are placed upon the same level, and though respect is paid to official dignity, it is more the reverence of a civilized people to the magisterial office of their own creation, than a deference to the individual who is chosen as its transient occupant. Every man by holding the same rank in society is stimulated to the same laudable and virtuous emulation. He beholds the honours of his country open to every competitor, yet attained alone by the most enterprising and meritorious. If we have any order therefore among us, it is the order of merit, an order exciting that ambition which has virtue for its means, and the love and reverence of the worthy for its end.

This equality of interest and feeling, this intellectual ligament which firmly binds citizen to citizen, the constitution has wisely protected from every probable assailment. Not confining its guardianship to temporalities alone, it has evinced the same solicitude for spiritual privileges; has equally secured the rights of conscience, and left the soul to range free in its aspirations.

No error has been more productive of human misery, than that which in most countries has placed its religious, under the controul of its civil institutions. There is no such thing as bending conscience; its texture is not malleable; it cannot be cooled and warmed at pleasure to different degrees of temperature.

The most valuable members of a community are those who are in heart zealously attached, and scrupulously obedient, to their religious tenets. Among those are we to look for patient industry, strict frugality, correctness of morals, and regularity of life. Here are we to search for that honesty ingrafted on religion, which teaches the fulfilment of individual contracts, the preservation of order, the reverence of law, and the sacred allegiance due to our country. The nation that wars against any moral sect, whatever may be its cast, wars against its own prosperity, and saps the foundations of its strength.

It was religious intolerance that drove from Spain a race who had converted her deserts into fruitful plantations, and adorned her cities with the choicest specimens of architecture. Art and industry, with the persecuted Moslems, were almost exiled the Peninsula: the elysian fields of Grenada again became desolate; and the mouldering ruins of the Alhambra are the last perishing mementos of Moorish dignity and grandeur.

It was religious intolerance that presided over the dreadful orgies of saint Bartholomews, that like the destroying angel went forth to massacre without distinction of age or sex, without regard for private worth or public usefulness; that struck to the earth exploring innocence; that coward-like rushed upon the unsuspecting couch of the generous and the brave, that in an instant changed the sweet repose of the weary peasant into the soundless sleep of death. The most meritorious of Gallic population, and the flower of Gallic knighthood perished in that night of horrors, and Charles entwined around his sanguinary brows a wreath of eternal infamy.

It was religious intolerance first invited that interference of the imperious Catharine, which afterwards led to the dismemberment and partition of Poland. And what but the same intolerance at this very day bears upon the lofty spirit of Ireland, and has almost broken the heart of her gallant people. The penal statutes systematized in the reign of Anne through a pretence of religious zeal have disfranchised the Catholics, excluded them from office, despoiled them of their property, cancelled the nuptial bond, rent asunder the ties of filial affection, exiled a persecuted population from their homes, and obliged them to look for protection to a land of strangers.

Happily for this country, we have closed the door against such a flood of evils. We have made conscience amenable to no other tribunal than Heaven, and left her errors to be judged by him, who alone knows the secret springs of the heart, and can best determine the purity and sincerity of its devotion.

To be Continued.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF DISTINGUISHED PERSONS.

MEMOIR OF THE REV. GEORGE WALKER.

Continued from p. 283, No. XXVII.

IN the spring of 1754, he returned to his father's house, having finally left college. He was now a candidate at-large for the ministerial office; but, as no situation immediately presented itself, he commenced his professional career by occasional assistance to the neighbouring ministers. It is probable, that his first sermon was preached at his native place, as his mother, who was a strict church-woman, sacrificed on this occasion her religious scruples to her desire of witnessing her son's initiatory address. If she decided however by this first exhibition, she would not have augured very favourably of his future success. A more trying situation can scarcely be imagined, than where a young man for the first time addresses an audience to whom he is personally known, and where he is conscious that the anxious fears of his friends, the expectations of his acquaintance, and the curiosity of all, are strongly excited. The fear of disappointing their hopes increases his diffidence, and induces a perturbation of mind, that debilitates his powers and enfeebles his delivery. Mr. Walker experienced this strongly in the present instance, as it occasioned such a depression of his voice, that he was sometimes scarcely audible.

In a letter to a quondam fellow student he has very forcibly expressed his sentiments.

"I doubt not you have heard of my having offered myself to the service of any presbyterian tribe, that wanted a spiritual consul; and as it becomes me to be diffident of my own abilities, I should be mighty glad of sharing the honour and burden with a colleague. But why should I talk of consul and colleague? When I think of the insurmountable difference between my own temper, manners, and sentiments, and the

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general character of the electors, I have little hopes of pleasing them in any station, unless I could play the Vicar of Bray, and cut my coat orthodox, or heterodox, talk sense or nonsense, as my interest dictates. I have heard accidentally of many objections since I commenced probationer."

His excessive application, which he still continued, and his sedentary life, were productive of their usual consequences, in inducing a series of complaints, that disqualified him altogether for pursuing his studies. In the beginning of this year he was seized with a succession of ague fits, attended with profuse perspirations, excessive faintness, violent headaches, and a loss of appetite, that amounted to an absolute loathing of food. He was attacked also with a violent inflammation in his eyes, occasioned by a too free use of them during candlelight; and his sufferings from this cause were so violent, as to occasion no little apprehension, that they would terminate in a total loss of sight. Sea-bathing and a suspension of all mental exertion were recommended by his physician. Accordingly in the beginning of autumn he undertook a journey to the coast. In this retirement he abandoned himself to those pleasing sensations, which the mind experiences in the relaxation from its severer labours, when secluded from the realities of life, the noise and interruption of the world, it sinks within itself, abandons itself to the train of its reveries, and indulges in all the luxury of fancy. In the following letter he has beautifully described the pleasures flowing from this state of the mind, that we shall offer no apology for inserting it.

"I am later than my promise, nevertheless excuse me. My punctuality in letter-writing I hope will never be admitted as a test of my friendship; as I am sure to my own heart it is none of the real respect
X x

and love I bear to many, who have found me grossly deficient in the article of correspondence. Since I left Leeds, I have spent most of my time at the sea-side, much to my satisfaction, and I hope not less so to the benefit of my health. If my abilities corresponded with my inclinations, I should never be contented till I had procured a summer retreat on the coast, which would still be rendered more agreeable by its vicinity to a frequented harbour, which affords a variety of entertainment to a speculative mind, that possesses so much interest in humanity, as to partake in some measure of the feelings of the sea-faring man, whose very happiness flows with the tide or turns with the wind. I have wandered for hours amidst rocks and sands in a pleasing absence of thought and care, when a pebble or a shell has afforded me as much pleasure as a mathematical problem. At other times I would draw figures and diagrams on the sand, which the next wave effaced, when suddenly a view of some natural convenience of situation would suggest the idea of a harbour, and by the magic aid of a certain powerful enchantress (high imagination) rocks were removed, piers were raised, channels were cut, and a port at once created, which the same omnipotent lady filled with those gallant wonders, that so astonished the Indians. These romantic chimeras would then be annihilated by some distant prospect at sea, which would raise a new train of imaginations, till the object that occasioned them vanished from my sight. I then walked idly sauntering along the shore, gazing with a placid delight on the vast ocean, and the endless uniformity of its motion, when some high-swelling wave, which overtopped the rest, and rolled on in state and majesty, till on a sudden it broke with a loud noise upon the shore, brought to my idea the picture of a proud overgrown mortal, that swells for a while above his fellows with all the insolence of pomp and imaginary greatness, only to make his fall the more conspicuous and violent. Weary at length with the tedious uniformity of such a sight, I would stoop to cockle-shells or

whatever attracted my curiosity, and would thus idly spend another hour till the whole enchantment of the day would be broken by an unmanly knight, whose prowess none ever withstood (known to mankind by the name of hunger) whose command unable to resist, I left my paradise, like Adam, with weary steps and slow. Not however like him, never to return, for such was my daily occupation, when the weather permitted me, which was much finer than any we had had during the summer, as if it sympathized with the genius of the place, and complaisantly withheld every rude unmanly blast, which might banish the graces that wanted around. David speaks of the sun rushing like a bridegroom from the chambers of the east, but the month that I spent here must certainly have been his honey moon, he wore so constant a face of joy, while all nature returned the smile; winter, which seemed already to have devoured its prey, was compelled to retreat with precipitation; summer and all its gay attendants were recalled, vegetables and animals rejoiced, pleasure danced around, and health,

The best lov'd gift of Heaven to human kind,
Came sweetly smiling on each breeze of wind,

"This was happiness too great, long to continue. Summer is gone at last, winter has fixed its hold, and all looks dreary and uncomfortable. Head-aches and agues stare me in the face. The noise of town, and the confinements of study, and the tedious round of weekly labours are returned. All my quondam friends are dispersed, and I feel half a stranger even in my native town.

In the course of this year he was chosen the minister of the congregation at Durham, where the memory of his uncle's former services would no doubt operate much in his favour, and introduce him to more than an ordinary share of the attention and friendship of his flock.

As he was now regularly established in the stated office of a minister, it was thought necessary, that he

should undergo the ceremony of ordination. This was accordingly performed at the meeting of ministers convened for the purpose in October 1757, a practice now very much disused among the rational dissenters, and which will probably in a little time be altogether laid aside. Having satisfactorily answered the questions proposed, he received ordination as a minister in the following terms:— "These are to certify, that the Rev. George Walker, having preached a sermon, and exhibited a Latin thesis from a subject assigned him, and publicly delivered a confession of his faith, was this day solemnly ordained, as witness our hands, &c."

It is probable, that none of the ministers assembled contemplated this ceremony in any other light, than as a solemn approbation of the individual as fitted by his character, his talents, and his faith, for the exercise of that profession, to which he had devoted himself. The notion of their acting in any apostolic character, and communicating to him by some secret and supernatural interference certain peculiar powers, must have been discarded by all as a remnant of folly and superstition; nevertheless there were many among the dissenting laity, who retained so much of the old puritanical spirit, that they would have deemed the sacrament but imperfectly administered by any but a regularly ordained minister, and have regarded the act of baptism by any other as nugatory and inefficacious.

During his residence at Durham, his habits of life appear to have continued uniform, and his health to have materially suffered from his inordinate application to his studies. Under the signature of P.M.D.* he was at this time a frequent contributor to the Ladies' Diary, and solved therein many very abstruse questions, that attracted the notice of the mathematicians of the day. It was at this time also, that he finished his doctrines of the sphere, a work of which he had laid the foundation in very early life, having commenced it before he was eighteen. This was partly undertaken as an amusement, and part-

ly to remove from his mind the inaccuracies, obscurities and inelegancies, which disgraced every system, that had as yet been published upon this department of the mathematics. The elements of the sphere, with the branches dependent thereon, had hitherto been but imperfectly attempted in a geometric style, or had been subjected to the slovenly hand of Algebra.

Shortly after his removal to Yarmouth from Durham he commenced his work on the conic-sections. The design of this undertaking suggested itself to him on reading the universal arithmetic of Sir Isaac Newton.

The same intemperate application to these and his other pursuits still characterized his habits of life; and a variety of consequent complaints compelled him to occasional intermission of his studies. It is probable, that from the commencement of his taste for mathematics may be dated that want of economy in the distribution of his time, which led him to appropriate to the persecution of his studies so many of those hours, that, with his infirm state of health, would have been more wisely given to sleep, and the restoration of exhausted nature. For months together has he retired to rest with the rising of the sun, and, till within a few years of his death, when his strength was not equal to such arduous exertions, it was his usual custom to prolong his studies to an advanced hour of the morning. He seems, at all times to have considered his body as the mere slave to his mind, and to pay no other attention to it, than what its necessities absolutely required. Experience however sufficiently demonstrates the injudiciousness of such a system, and its tendency to defeat the very object, that it has in view. The powers of the mind require to be renewed by occasional interruptions of ease and relaxation; and all extraordinary efforts are calculated only to impair its vigour, and to induce a premature decay of its faculties. Though he was happily exempt from the misfortune of experiencing the latter effect, yet there is no doubt, but that his intemperance of application was attended with serious injury to his health and strength; and most of those bodily

* Presbyterian Minister, Durham.

complaints under which at various periods he suffered, were the result of his sedentary life. Yet we must not condemn this imprudence with too much severity, lest we include in our censure many of the wisest and the best of men, who have done honour to human nature. The mere man of the world, occupied in the common concern of business or amusement, may prescribe to himself such a stated regulation of his time, as is best adapted to the nature of his pursuits; nor is there any thing in them, that forbids a practical adherence to it; but the student, who is buried in the profound contemplations of his closet, is abstracted from the world and all its forms, he is not to be broken in upon by the ordinary calls of life; absorbed in his abstruse speculations, he is wholly inattentive to the lapse of time; nor does he cease from his intellectual exertions until the powers of his mind, exhausted by intense application, require to be invigorated, by an intermission of its labours. These observations apply with peculiar force to the mathematical student. When the truth to be evolved is dependent upon a long connected series of deduction, where in regular progression it is to be elicited step by step, any sudden diversion of the mind breaks at once the train of its ideas, and destroys the order of its reasonings.

At the close of the year 1771, shortly after his marriage which took place in this year he received an invitation from the society of the old meeting at Birmingham, to succeed their late minister, the Rev. Mr. Howell. Though nothing could exceed the cordiality that subsisted between himself and the congregation at Yarmouth, yet a regard to his situation as a married man induced him to accede to this proposal, which would the better enable him to provide for all the duties that might spring from so interesting a relation. In consequence of his acceptance of this situation, a house was provided for him, and every necessary preparation made for his reception. Previously however to his finally leaving Yarmouth for this purpose, he was applied to by

the trustees of the Warrington Academy, to undertake the office of mathematical professor in that institution; and as this was a situation for which he was eminently qualified by his talents and acquirements, as well as extremely coincident with his general habits and inclinations, he felt no other hesitation in immediately accepting it, than what arose from his recent engagement with Birmingham. In this dilemma he consulted his friend Dr. Priestly, through whom he had received the invitation to Warrington. The Doctor in his reply observed, that it would be much easier for the people of Birmingham to provide themselves with another minister, than the Academy with another tutor: that the duty which he had to perform in this case was so different from that of a minister, that it could not be considered as quitting one congregation for another; and that those whom he had consulted upon the business made light of his engagement with Birmingham. His friends in general pressed him to the same choice, apprehensive that his health and strength might prove unequal to the services of so large a congregation.

During his residence at Warrington he published his treatise upon the sphere, principally for the purpose of accommodating the students who attended his lectures. This is generally acknowledged to be the most masterly treatise upon the subject extant, and is remarkable for the purity of the language, and the elegance of the demonstrations.

But if there were no other merit to recommend it to the student, the construction of the solid figures wherever they are required must render it of superior utility. The time and labour employed in the contrivance and final preparation of these figures greatly exceeded that of the composition of the whole work besides. To furnish 500 copies to the public required the cutting out of more than 20,000 figures, which were afterwards to be divided, pierced, fitted, and the whole inserted in the planes to which they are adherent; an immense undertaking, and a species of mechanical employment peculiarly irksome to a

an of taste and genius. This production, the result of so much patient industry and laborious investigation, as sold to Mr. Johnson for the small sum of 40*l*. and even this was altered and voluntarily remitted by Mr. Walker, as the sale had not indemnified him for the expense of publication. That a work of such acknowledged merit should have met with so little maintenance from the public, strongly figures the decline of mathematical learning, which is perhaps no very favourable symptom of the literary state of the age.

Mr. Walker's determination to resign his office was no sooner known, than he was chosen as one of the ministers of the congregation assembling on the High-pavement, Nottingham. His removal hither, in consequence of his acceptance of this situation was in the autumn of 1774. This may be regarded as an important era in his life, as from it may be dated his usefulness as a public character. He had very early been thrown into circumstances, that had contributed to give his mind a decided turn for public affairs. In the celebrated election for Durham in 1761, he had been induced, by motives of private friendship, to enter warmly into the contest; on which occasion his services had attracted particular notice, and were deemed very instrumental to the election of the successful candidate. During his stay also at Yarmouth, where he subsequently resided, the dissenters possessed a very considerable political influence, which was in general successfully exerted in the choice of a representative of similar views and principles with themselves. Scarcely therefore could he refrain from imbibing a portion of that spirit with which his friends and acquaintance in general were actuated. He had moreover, both as the effect of his education and of his own reading and reflection, formed very strong and decided notions upon the nature of civil and religious liberty; nor did he deem it inconsistent with his ministerial character, to act up to the spirit of the principles he had imbibed, whenever he conceived, that his public duty required it of him. Possessing such sentiments and a disposition naturally ardent, he entered

with more than ordinary zeal into the discussion of all those questions, that in their consequences affected the interests of the public? and, whether the subject had a reference merely to the local concerns of the town in which he resided, or embraced the more extended interests of the community at large, he generally acted a leading and conspicuous part. In this however there was no forward obtrusion of himself, no arrogant desire of dictating to a party, or of attracting the notice of the public, but it was the situation which his character and his merit naturally assigned him, and was on the part of his associates a voluntary deference to superior talents and acquirements.

The peculiar circumstances of the situation, in which he was now placed, rendered his exertions as a public character still more extensively useful. The municipal jurisdiction of the town was vested in a corporation, that acted upon the same liberal and enlarged principles, as Mr. Walker had himself adopted for the rule of his public conduct, while the magistracy in general were members of that religious community, to which he was minister. These circumstances contributed to give a weight to his opinions, which his personal character alone would scarcely have obtained; but being united to such other qualities, as generally give a man an ascendancy in society, they procured him a degree of influence, which few private individuals have ever possessed. These opportunities of public good the active benevolence of his disposition did not permit him to pass unimproved; but on every occasion, in which his services might be beneficially employed, he exerted himself with a zeal and disinterestedness, that were influenced neither by a desire of popularity, nor an apprehension of personal danger. His removal to Nottingham but barely preceded the commencement of American hostilities; and as he approved neither of the grounds on which they were undertaken, nor the subsequent policy of continuing them, he exerted himself with considerable activity in opposition to so ruinous a measure. For this purpose he did not merely

content himself with bearing his testimony against its injustice and impolicy as a single and unconnected individual; but, by promoting the plan of public petitions, he gave that form and body to the expression of the popular voice, in which alone it could operate with effect. And to the honour of Nottingham it may be recorded, that, in its endeavours for the preservation of peace, not only on this occasion but during the continuance of the late hostilities with France, she exhibited to the rest of the kingdom a singular example of political wisdom and of public spirit, which, had it more generally obtained, might have been the means of averting the calamities, that have marked the progress of those ill-fated wars. These petitions, or rather remonstrances, that at various times were presented to the different departments of government, were the productions of his pen, and are distinguished by his characteristic energy of sentiment and language.

In his ministerial character also Mr. Walker was led to advert to the circumstances of the times in three discourses, which, at the request of his hearers, were published in the years 1776, 1778, and 1784. The first and second of these were delivered on days appointed for a general fast; and the third on the day of thank-giving on account of the reconciliation with America. Of the propriety of a compliance with these ordinances of government he entertained considerable doubts; and, as he has observed himself, he was induced to it more by the importunity of his best and sincere friends, than any approval of his own conscience. In after life he formed more determined opinions upon the subject, nor could any persuasions have then induced him to have borne a part in such a solemn mockery of religion, such an unmeaning and hypocritical parade of humiliation and contrition, assumed at the mere bidding of authority, dictated by no feeling of a truly repentant spirit, which alone can sanctify the act, or render it an acceptable homage; and where, on the part of those who exact

this appearance of national sorrow, it is accompanied by a renunciation of no one public or private vice, or scarcely one act, that manifests a spirit according with the penitent language of their proclamation. But however little sincerity might generally enter into this religious act, or whatever doubts he might entertain respecting a compliance with it, the honesty of his own motives is apparent, in the spirit that pervades these discourses, which are characterized by such a zeal for reformation, public and private, such an indignant disdain of vice, exhibited with so much vigour of sentiment and energy of language, as entitle them to rank not only among the best of his own compositions, but with any of the most admired specimens of the hortatory eloquence of the pulpit.

The little success that had attended the progress of the American war, the increasing distresses of the times, the vast accumulation of the public debts, joined to the fear of those consequences that might arise to the parent state from the total separation of her colonies, had spread a universal gloom throughout the nation, and excited the most alarming apprehensions for the future. With this general sentiment Mr. Walker deeply sympathized; and in the present discourses he has in feeling terms lamented the degradation of his country: but when he indulges his despondency so far as to predict her approaching decline; and to declare, that he even then regarded her only in the light of the venerable dead, he may be thought to have carried his apprehensions farther, than the nature of the circumstances justified. The reasons on which he grounded this opinion, however, were not those, that are the most obvious to superficial observers. They were not the consequences of defeat, or a maleadministration of public affairs; for to these the energies of a virtuous people will always rise superior: but they were the well grounded apprehensions of one accustomed sedately to reflect upon the causes, that contribute to the rise and fall of nations; one who possessed an enlarged and comprehen-

sive knowledge of mankind, drawn from his own experience, and that of past ages, which taught him, that, as no state derived its greatness from fortuitous circumstances alone, so none ever fell from the rank it held but by the decline of that public spirit and virtue, to which it owed its elevation. This decline Mr. Walker saw, or thought he saw, in the general insensibility to national disgrace and humiliation; in the barefaced profligacy and dissipation of the great; in the open and avowed contempt for religion, and abandonment of all her precepts; in the prostitution of public character, which a Briton cannot contemplate without amazement, and which more than any thing indicates the decline of public virtue; in the increasing idleness and depravity of the lower ranks, who are the invigorating soul of a community, and who alone in the hour of danger can administer that support to a suffering country, which her exigencies may require. These symp-

toms, the history of every age and nation had taught him, were the sure forerunners of national decline; and whether he were justified in asserting, that his own country manifested these symptoms, must be determined by the character which she then exhibited, and has since continued to display. Yet, though he had no expectation of ever witnessing the revival of that ancient spirit, which had marked the better days of his country, this discouraging prospect did not sink him into that supine indifference, that indolent despair, which the extinction of hope produces on the minds of those who are animated to exertion only by the prospect of success, and who act not from that steady adherence to principle, that conscientious discharge of duty, which are independent of circumstances, and which, aiming only at good designs, leaves the issue of events to the disposal of a wiser being.

To be Continued.

DETACHED ANECDOTES.

RAPID PROGRESS IN THE LANCASTRIAN
MODE OF TUITION, IN ONE INSTANCE,
ATTRIBUTED TO WITCHCRAFT.

IN Shropshire and Staffordshire, in the space of only eight months, a boy scarcely seventeen, has lately organized schools, and instructed school masters, for above one thousand children: the affectionate and mild, but firm conduct of this amiable lad, rendered each school a scene of pleasure and delight, in which his steady application of the system of order, proved its utility and excellence. When he took leave of one school, in order to open another at a different place, it was a most delightful sight to behold the whole school of children, lamenting his departure, as they would the loss of their nearest friend. He introduced the system so completely into one school, that the children required very little attention

to execute the plan, and thereby teach themselves. To a person not an eyewitness, it would scarcely seem credible, but it is a fact, that the master, who was a shoe-maker, would sit at the head of the school with his last and leather, and attentively work and overlook the tuition of the school: he had no occasion to exert himself to prevent confusion, for the order of the system was so far introduced into the habits of the children, that they would themselves be the first to correct the smallest disorderly movement. The success of this boy's labour was so great in one instance, as to induce a countryman to go to the clergyman of the parish, who was the patron of the school, to complain that his children learned so much, and so fast, that as he did not get on at such a rate when he was a child at school, he thought witchcraft alone could produce such an effect upon his children.—

The clergyman, though scarcely able to refrain from laughter, was obliged to put on a grave countenance, and assure his parishioner, that neither magic, incantation, nor witchcraft, had any thing to do in the business.

PERTINACITY IN ERROR.

The church of Basle, in Switzerland, does not stand directly east and west: on this account the sun-dial, which is affixed to it, varies from the true time about 45 minutes. The magistrates wished to have this reformed, and with great secrecy and artifice the dial was rectified; the people, however, soon observed the innovation—They arose, and tumultuously insisted, that by ancient usage they had a right to have the city dial wrong; wrong it has been, and wrong it shall be; and the people succeeded.—[See Cox's travels in Switzerland, and Ensor on national government]—The senseless opposition to innovation, has, in many instances of more moment, been as ridiculously exemplified. In a history of human errors, the dread of innovation would stand pre-eminently conspicuous.

FENELON.

It was a common practice of the celebrated Archbishop of Cambray, to walk out into the villages round the city, seeking opportunities of doing good. In one of these rambles, hearing the sound of great lamentation, he entered the cottage whence it proceeded, inquired after the cause of this sorrow, and offered his assistance to remove it.—“Alas! sir,” said the good woman, “you cannot help us; we grieve for our all: we had but one cow, and she is lost; poor bruno, we have expected her coming home in vain these three days: the wolves have devoured her, and we shall perish with hunger.” “Well my good children, your loss is not irreparable; I will give you another cow.”—“Ah! sir, shall we ever love her like our own? It will be a long time before we forget bruno. Forget

her! neither we nor our children can prove so ungrateful: she was our support: we bought her when a calf; she knew when we spoke to her, and would answer us in her fashion: her hair was smooth; and then little Jem would get upon her back, and she would let us ride upon her, and we would laugh; but now we can only cry. No, there is not another cow in the world can make us amends for the loss of bruno.” After having done all he could to console the poor family, the worthy Prelate was departing, when the youngest girl said to him, “O, sir, if *you* would but pray to God to send us our cow again, I know she would come back.” “Well, well, don't cry any more adieu!” said the Archbishop. Thus saying, he took his way homeward. He had staid so long, that the sun was now set. After walking some way, he perceived by the twilight a cow alone in the field. Imagining this might be the cow of the poor cottagers, he went towards her, and found her exactly answering their description. Late as it was, and though he had now come above a mile on his way home, he determined to save the distressed family another night of sorrow, took hold of the end of the rope that still hung from the cow's neck, and thus led her back to the cottage.

The joy at his return with the cow may be easily conceived. The good people, persuaded that he was some angel, who had assumed the form of their beloved pastor, fell on their knees at his feet: but when they were assured that it was the Archbishop himself, and greatly fatigued as he was, that he determined to return immediately to Cambray, not to alarm his family any longer for his safety; they immediately set about cutting down some branches of trees to form a rude kind of litter, and being joined by the rest of the people of the hamlet, who had been roused by their rejoicings, conveyed the good Archbishop to the city in rustic triumph.

Translation Attempted.

O NIGHT, thy enemies declare
Thee dark, to me supremely fair,
While truth desires to be more true,
And love vows double love to you.
How do I dread the morning's eyes,
When beneath night's dear disguise,
Love throws aside all other screen,
And favours felt need not be seen!
Then fearful, less, then less severe,
Each soft persuasion wins the ear:
But should Aurora's blushes break,
A kindred blush illumines her cheek,
Love now may sigh, 'twere vain to speak.

MR. NECKER.

AGIOTEUR adroit, Ministre sans
moyen,
De rien il fit de l'or, et d'un Empire rien.

Mr. Pitt.

The flame of England's glory, thro' him was chang'd
to vapour;
He found it full of gold, and he left it full—of paper.

*From a young man of Philadelphia, to the
Principal of the Society called *Dunkers*,†
in consequence of a visit he had paid him,
and the conversation which had passed be-
tween them at that time.

THE eternal God from his exalted
throne
Surveys at once earth, heaven, and worlds
unknown,
All things that are before his piercing eye,
Like the plain tracings of a picture lie:
Unuttered thoughts, deep in the heart
concealed,
In strong expressions stand to him re-
veal'd,

*On looking over some manuscripts given me
by a departed relative, among other (to me) va-
luable productions, I found the above poetic piece.
I am not sure whether it ever appeared in print,
but am inclined to think the contrary. If the
pure and mild spirit of christian charity which
breathes in every line, was more generally in-
culcated and attended to—all the petty and acri-
monious distinctions, which at present exist a-
mong professing christians would be done away,
each might then use that form of worship most
consonant to his ideas, without running the
risk on that account of being branded with
the odious epithets of Orange man, or Unit-
ed men, terms which only tend to alienate
the affections of those who ought to live in ami-
ty with each other—we would not then hear
of a corps of Yeomanry laying down their arms
and refusing to obey their captain, because *some*
individuals of it (though otherwise unexception-
able characters) thought it right to say their
prayers in a different form from the rest.

When will Irishmen be awakened to their true
interests!—or politicians and patriots made sensible,
that in unanimity consist the strength, safety and
happiness of a nation.—If through the medium of
your valuable publication, even one proselyte should
be gained to liberality of sentiment, it will impart
a pleasing reflection to your well wishing reader.

HUMANUS.

†A religious sect of people whose principles and
manners are very singular, they reside at Ephrata,
a little village about a day's journey from Philadel-
phia.

Thousands and twice ten thousands every
day

To him, or feign'd, or real homage pay.
Like clouds of incense rolling to the skies
In various forms their supplications rise;
Their various forms to him no access gain
Without the heart's true incense, all are
vain;

The suppliant's secret motives there ap-
pear

The genuine source of every offered
prayer,

Some place religion on a throne superb,
And deck with jewels her resplendent
garb;

Painting and sculpture all their powers
display,

And lofty tapers shed a lambent ray,
High on the full-toned organ's swelling
sound

The pleasing anthem floats serenely round,
Harmonic strains their thrilling powers
combine

And lift the soul to extacy divine.

In Ephrata's deep gloom, you fix your seat,
And seek religion in the dark retreat,
In sable weeds you dress the heaven-born
maid,

And place her pensive in the lonely
shades;

Recluse, unsocial, you, your hours em-
ploy,

And fearful, banish every harmless joy,
Each may admire and use their favourite
form,

If Heaven's own flame their glowing in-
soms warm,

If love divine of God and man be there,
The deep-felt want that forms the ardent
prayer,

The grateful sense of blessings freely
given

The boon unsought, unmerited of Heaven;
'Tis true devotion, and the Lord of love

Such prayers and praises kindly will ap-
prove,

Whether from golden altars they arise,
And rapt in sound, and incense reach the
skies,

Or from your Ephrata so meek, so low,
In soft and silent aspirations flow.

Oh! let the Christian bless that glorious day
When useless forms shall all be done a-
way,

When we in spirit and in truth alone
Shall bend O, God! before thy awful
throne,

And thou our purer worship shall approve,
By sweet returns of everlasting love.

ODE;

By the late Miss Ryces.

WHAT constitutes a man?

Noth'g rais'd titles nor possessions

Rich fields, with corn o'er ran,
 Not servile adoration paid to pride ;
 Not stars, by flattery gain'd,
 Not gilded coronets, and blazon'd arms ;
 Not souls by meanness stain'd,
 Whose low brow'd baseness, honour never
 warms.
 No—Freedom, ever bold,
 With power of happiness alone endued ;
 Not lifeless, dull, and cold
 As the vile Sycophant's disgusting brood.
 Bold Freedom—gift divine—
 By Heaven bestowed on th' independent
 soul,
 Which Tyrants eant confine
 Within the fetters of unjust controul.

This constitutes a man !
 And virtuous deeds, by Virtue's dictates
 taught,
 Which fearless dares to scan
 With nicest scrutiny, each latent thought.
 Struck by her sacred nod,
 The fiend servility, unheeded shrinks,
 And hard constraint's keen rod
 In her great presence, unregarded sinks.
 Thus by wise Heaven's decree
 'Tis noble Freedom, join'd with virtue's
 charms,
 That form, what man should be,
 Brave man ! who shrinks alone at guilt's
 alarms.
Poetical Register for 1803, p. 137.

REVIEW OF NEW PUBLICATIONS.

*On National Government by George En-
 sor esq. Author of "the Independent
 Man, and Principles of Morality,"*
 2 vols. 8vo. p.p. 456 and 487. Price
 one Guinea. London, Printed by J.
 Johnson & Co. for the Benefit of the
 literary fund:

OUR countryman, the author of
 these volumes, is known in the
 literary world as author of "the
 Principles of morality" published in
 1801, and of "the Independent Man,"
 published in 1806. They with the
 present work, and some volumes which
 are yet to follow, form a general plan
 for man in his individual and social
 capacity, and having in his former
 publication discussed the first part of
 his subject, he now proceeds to pub-
 lish a scheme for national government.
 In this country he is known not merely
 as the solitary recluse in his closet, for he
 has judiciously added practice to theo-
 ry, and is noted in the neighbourhood
 of his residence at Ardress in the
 county of Armagh, as possessing much
 actual benevolence, and forming a
 virtuous exception to many of his own
 rank in life, acting very differently
 from the fox hunting and party follow-
 ing squires of Ireland, who, like their
 prototype Nimrod, follow the double
 occupation of being mighty hunters,
 and whose "prey is man." In 1806 he
 served the office of high sheriff for
 the county of Armagh, and is gene-
 rally an active member of the grand jury
 of that county, in which latter capacity

he has not been unmindful of the interests
 of this country as may appear by the
 resolutions published by that body on the
 subject of oppressive exactions in levy-
 ing tythes on some parts of that county.

The present work is the result of
 much reflection, and certainly of
 much reading. He exemplifies the
 maxim of Bacon, "that reading
 makes a full man." Indeed his quota-
 tions are so abundant, and he draws
 his authorities so copiously from books,
 that there is some danger of his re-
 lying too much on precedents already
 formed, instead of drawing from the
 original resources of his own mind,
 and that *what has been written*, is suf-
 fered to have more weight, than what
 ought to be done. We are apt to va-
 lue our knowledge, in proportion as
 it has cost us, and those who have
 passed laborious days, and toilsome
 nights in gleaning through the library,
 may be in danger of attaching more
 weight to precedents, than is consist-
 ent with their intrinsic value.

There is however much originality
 and great depth of research in this
 performance. We can warmly recom-
 mend it to our readers, and have on-
 ly to regret that from the apathy and
 markishness of the present times, we
 fear it will be too little popular, and
 but seldom read. It is a symptom
 of bad times, when works of genuine
 merit are neglected, because they con-
 tain matter too strong for the diges-
 tive organs of the many, who if they

and at all can bear nothing stronger than the politics of the day dressed up by venal writers, to suit a diseased palate, or the whipt cream of orks of fancy. They dislike to have their dreams of security disturbed by unpleasant truths, and become dupes of deception, and that worst species of it, self-deception, and lest truth should unwelcome intrude, they abstain from writings, which promise serious acquisitions. To such readers although so many momentous events of the highest interest to us mark the present crisis, tales of other times, so delicious reading, and Walter Scott stands distinguished as the favourite high priest of this sect of sentimentalists, and worshippers of apathy.

From the preliminary discourse, we give the following quotations, to mark the spirit of the writer, and afford a specimen of the work.

"There are some in this country who consider the English constitution not only as the most perfect form of government that has ever existed, but profess that it is as honest in its administration as any government can be, which has mortals for its ministers. These men, so far from admitting a hint or expression against its principles, are absolute and declared enemies to any attempt for its amendment. I have myself heard a member of the house of Lords, who possessed vast dominions in England, Ireland and Scotland on a motion for general reform, with impatience and wonder ask, "What do the people want?" In the same tone a farmer general in France, who had probably beggared a province, and whose rapacity had hastened the late revolution, exclaimed, "What need of reformation? To such men I can make no reply; they neither read nor think, and surely they must be incapable of both reading and thinking, who averred, that France wanted no reformation, as well as they who pronounce, because in their estimate the constitution of the British empire is incapable of being meliorated either in principle or practice, that the people of England are capricious and visionary, if they wish that their laws, regulations, and government were improved."

"Time," says Bacon, "is the greatest innovator, and if time of course alter things to the worse, and wisdom and counsel may not alter them to the better, what must be the end?"

"Thus political affairs rapidly advance to such a desperate extreme, that the government of France stood like a vast pile distracted and overhanging its foundations, so momentous yet calamitous, that no wise man, however benevolent, durst approach it with assistance, lest he should be buried in its ruins. It fell, whether absolutely by its own decay, or whether its fall were hastened by the feeble attempts that were employed to suspend its fate; it fell, overwhelming kings, nobles, hierarchy, fanatics, and philosophers, the enemies of freedom and the friends of liberty, with universal perdition, a dreadful example of the effects of reformation delayed till reformation became ineffectual."

"I have shown that many nations possessing similar constitutions, were once not less but more free than Britain. I need not inform the reader, that they are now enslaved: and why have they fallen, while England still confronts her danger? They did not reform their vices, till they were inextricably involved with the texture of the state; and must not the same consequences overtake the British people, if the legislature persist in retarding the day of reformation? For, beside many great corruptions, that regarding the representation of the people in parliament is so mortal in its effects, that, if not corrected promptly, the constitution must not only in effect, but without pretence or subterfuge, sink into a mere monarchy."

"Reform, or you perish suicides! the victims of your own crimes. England, though not erect, is not prostrate; and while Sweden, Denmark, the states of Germany and Italy, Spain and France, are enthralled, she has preserved herself from subjection, by the successive and magnanimous endeavours of her people to withstand the tyranny of kings and ministers, and by their insuperable fortitude in forcing these to retract their encroachments. What had England been without Magna Charta a thousand times confirmed?"

What without the petition of Rights in Charles the First's reign? What without the bravery of Hamden, who though a single citizen, resisted the rapacious prerogative of the crown? What without the bill of rights, the habeas corpus, the condemnation of general warrants? She would have been as Spain, as Sweden, as Norway:—nay perhaps she had been a province to France, the slave of an enslaved people."

He shows that the people are generally more averse from innovation than prone to accelerate it.

"So entirely are men the creatures of habit, that they are often fond of their misfortunes, and dote on them in proportion to their antiquity. Length of time in their apprehensions alters the nature of things. What has been long established they esteem well established; as if a vice of long continuance were not error in its old age. It is therefore false that men are disposed to innovation; nor is it less so, that a desire of alteration would be most fatal to the interests of society; on the contrary it would be much more fortunate for mankind, if they were more disposed to amend their situation by experiments. Great things might be expected from this aspiring temper, if indeed such a temper itself do not manifest a considerable proficiency in virtue."

"To impute an innovating spirit to mankind in law or government, is contradicted by the universal evidence of history: and I have quoted instances of men and nations, who have preferred inveterate bondage to innovated liberty, when the latter had been honestly proposed to them for their acceptance. Consider this point in every view, compare the everlasting duration of tyrannies, and the occasional insurrections of the oppressed. How many nations have been imperceptibly the victims of despotism. If ever the people rose, it was merely to punish some great criminals: which being effected, they relapsed into their former apathy. Even of those who carried their notions beyond this summary vengeance to a renovation of the state, what have they effected? Look to the British revolution in 1688, a counterpart in politics for the re-

formation in religion. Look a century after to the conduct of the French: their revolution, that which had been brought forth with such unexampled agonies, they destroyed almost at its birth. Not even the English at the restoration with more zeal hailed Charles, the desolate offspring of a despicable sire, than the French returned to monarchy. A king they would have, for a king they had had. The crown was offered to Moreau and his virtue rejected it. The sequel is told in the holy apologue of the bramble, which acted among the king loving shrubs."

In the body of the work, our author proceeds to treat of the different kinds of government existing, monarchy, aristocracy, democracy, and of a mixed sort, and points out the defects of each. In this review the British constitution does not escape censure. He takes a view of constitutions ancient and modern, Sparta, Athens, China, Hindostan, and the governments of Europe, are brought in to undergo a comprehensive examination. It is shown by what means the latter gradually lost their liberties, through the gradual encroachment of power, and the danger to which our countries are exposed, from the progressive operations of these causes. He defends the people against the charge of cruelty, and admits the accusation of their inconstancy in the following quotations, which are exhibited to our readers.

"It is said, that democracies are lawless in the execution of their power. How is this even applicable to the very mob? The insurrection in 1381 has more than once been quoted to show the extravagance of the people. It has also been intimated, that the opinions professed by the insurgents showed the danger of instructing the people in the rudiments of learning; the barons of those days petitioned the king that no *villains* should be permitted to send his son to school. It is true that at this time a dawn of light cast a faint and false illumination on the minds of mankind, but the misfortune of this and of many preceding and subsequent periods was, that the lower orders advanced in knowledge, while the higher

were retrograde or stationary, not knowing, or not heeding what became them, and what was suitable to others. The improvements of the people had however no influence on this innovation. In 1377, four years before this famous insurrection, a law was enacted, on which Barrington observes, "nothing could be more oppressive than this law in every part of it; and we find by different records in Rymer, that this oppression was in reality the occasion of the famous insurrection under Wat Tyler, and Jack Straw." Neither was this the immediate cause of the insurrection. It was only aiding and preparatory to the event. A grievous tax had been imposed. It was exacted with rigour, and insult was added to violence. Among many other violations of all that was respectable and just, a tax-gatherer attempted to exhibit an indecent proof, that a female had reached the age taxable by the law. One hundred thousand people rose in arms in consequence of this brutality. What was the conduct of the oppressed, insulted, and irritable multitude, who could have instantly swept away all their extraordinary and subordinate tyrants? Having committed a small though just reprisal, on the obvious authors of their dishonour and misery, with absolute power in their hands, they demanded pardon, abolition of slavery, freedom of commerce in market towns without toll or imposts, a fixed rent for land, instead of the pernicious and variable services due by villenage. Being promised these requests, the reasonableness of which, time has confirmed, they separated in peace. But mark the consequence, mark and compare the conduct of the people, of the populace, with that of the monarch and the aristocracy; all the promises made by these to the people were retracted, and the act of indemnity revoked. Nay, the fifth Richard the second recites, that any of the rioters had been executed without due process or trial; which account the king grants a general pardon to be pleaded against any prosecutions, that may be commenced; "which seems to be a law," says Barrington "of as alarming a nature to the liberty of the subject,

as can be found in the whole code of statutes. Such are your kings, and barons, and such your deluded oppressed people. It is said that the people are inconstant. They are so; and most inconstant in prosecuting their rights, while monarchies and aristocracies pursue their selfish interests with pertinacious wickedness. They are most inconstant; for having resolved after great and frequent provocations to have their grievances redressed, nothing is more common than to find them, by evasive arts, by soothing words, or even by something less imposing than either, induced to relinquish their duty and their designs. The Plebeians of Rome harassed on every side by the Patricians, abandoned the city; but a tale of the Belly and the Members from Menenius assuages their rage, and they return to the city. The people are so inconstant, that their unsuspecting carelessness sometimes betrays them into ludicrous situations. I shall quote an instance to this effect from the conduct of a people, very jocular, but so singularly oppressed, that their pleasantries are most remarkable. A report was circulated in Dublin during a Duke of Bedford's administration, that a union between England and Ireland, a measure ever deprecated by the people, was to be proposed to parliament. The populace assembled in College Green, threatened and insulted some members of parliament, and imposed oaths on others; then broke into the house of commons, placed an old woman in the speaker's chair, and began to debate on the propriety of introducing pipes and tobacco. Such is the inconstancy of the people."

The following remarks on the disinclination to a serious investigation of politics, and their great importance compared with other pursuits, are deserving of attention.

"Every art and profession has its teachers, and its institutions, except political philosophy; and how many thousand books are written on topics comparatively and absolutely frivolous for one written on this predisposing science. This modern apathy toward political philosophy is ominous, is lamentable. How mortified must

be the sensations of Europe in this respect, when the British are dead to its voice! Indeed to be more remiss than the British, is scarcely possible. For political philosophy, and authors, and readers apart, the legislature enacts the most momentous statutes with the utmost unconcern. This apathy is discouraging to authors; they must feel dissatisfied from the reflection, that they probably write for few readers. Yet an individual may occasionally arise, who will escape this general insensibility to such paramount considerations a motive to his enterprise. He will consider, that the greater difficulty there is to excite an interest for the reformation of laws and states, the greater will be his glory, if he effect his purpose; and great will be his satisfaction, should he contribute but remotely to the event."

At page 207 of the 1st vol. he enters into a defence of Ireland against the misrepresentation of a long array of writers; and among others, Malthus, for his remarks on the potatoe system of population, receives some just correction. But the quotation, we regret, is too long for our pages. The author throughout the entire work, is the enlightened and liberal advocate of Catholic emancipation, and a strenuous opposer of the union.

On the qualifications of representatives, he makes the following judicious observations on wealth.

"But why should riches qualify a legislator? Riches are proofs of opulence and nothing more. The richest man may be the most stupid, and the most corrupt person in the community. Riches are inherited, granted by caprice, accidentally obtained, or they may be the fruits of extortion and fraud. When money authorises individuals to attain the highest political consequence, it is a greater disgrace to be poor than to be wicked. Then the aspiring say, with Milwood the courtizan, "My soul disdained dependence and contempt. Riches, no matter by what means obtained, I saw secured the worst of men from both. I found it therefore necessary to be rich, and to this end I summoned all my arts. You call them wicked, be it so," &c. To make

wealth a criterion of merit, or an indispensable preparation for civil and political consequence, is perverse and unpopular."

After showing the defects of existing establishments, our author proceeds to develop his own plan of government, which consists of an elective administration, a senate and house of representatives, all chosen in such a manner as to depend on the choice of these people; but the mode of election guarded by such precautions as tend to insure from the dangers of popular ferment, or popular corruption. Opinions will differ on the utility and practicability of some part of the plans, if they were to be carried into effect; but they are fair objects of discussion in a free country. The author expresses himself with much calmness and moderation, and suggests many practical hints, which may prove of the highest importance in the interesting science of legislation. Like Plato in his Republic, Sir Thomas More in his Utopia, and Harrington in his Oceana, he gives many a delightful vision, and does not fail to impress his readers with the most favourable opinions of his exalted morality, and real benevolence of heart. But reform is out of fashion and we see at present no prospect of any voice in its favour being the smallest degree attended to.

After a full detail of his sentiments on the subject of government, the author proceeds to give his opinions on religion, and religious establishments. His creed is simple, but it is not as long as some others, it is not defective in the points essential to a strict and comprehensive morality. He fearlessly, yet not obtrusively avows his objections to popular belief. To establishments in the name of religion, to the unnatural alliance between church and state; and to the system of tithes, he is a decided and undaunted opponent. His opinion may shock the timid; but he can be more easily answered by the common weapon of abuse with which supposed heretics are almost universally and as if of right opposed, than by sound argument. He unfolds his opinions on the subject of public instruction. Different readers will form

different judgments on this point. He disapproves of a melancholy manner of spending the remaining part of the periodical day of rest, and after the season of public instruction in the morning. He recommends athletic exercises to the working classes. It may be allowed to remark, that violent exercises are not always best calculated for those who have laboured hard through the week: to them rest of body is the best relaxation, and might be made highly conducive to the improvement of mind, by a suitable course of reading, gradually rising so as to be adapted to their opening and unfolding capacities; while such, whose sedentary employment might render more exercise of body necessary, would find rational amusement in a social walk into the country, and in which their families might partake to the enlargement, and wider spread of the domestic affections. The uninformed classes of society are peculiarly liable to mispend their leisure, and there is much cause to fear that public assemblages for exercise would speedily produce drunkenness, dissipation and those evils, which are exemplified in the Sunday hurling matches of the south of Ireland. It would be of essential advantage to infuse more of mind into the amusements of every rank.

Our author finishes his present labour with the following remarks.

"I now conclude the first part of my plan for the government of nations. The temper, which this work will excite towards me, I anticipate; nor do I expect, that I shall be favourably heard. I make this observation, not for the purpose of bewailing my fate, or of moving the reader's compassion for a suffering martyr, I say so merely to evince, that I am not ignorant of the disposition of the times, and of the state of society. That I shall be slandered and misinterpreted, why should I doubt? when I prefer a state, in which the executive power should not be master, but minister; and when I think that a commonwealth may be framed without any miraculous assistance, more conducive to good government than any monarchy, by any management that ever existed, or that can exist, is capable

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of effecting; I have imagined things even still more offensive: I have proved, that it would be wise to divert the religious belief of mankind from fables to facts, and from frights to philosophy. In fine I have taken arms against a host of errors, and against the chief, Superstition,—that enormous monster whose head reaches to Heaven, while her feet rests on the abyss."

We fear he forms a just expectation of the verdict and decision of the community at present. He will either be passed unnoticed with scorn and indifference, or be harshly condemned as the setter forth of strange doctrine. Like those who in every age, have advanced before their contemporaries, and have facilitated the way to improvement in succeeding generations, he must be contented with the approbation of his own mind, and with a dignified appeal to posterity, who frequently in the march of mind tacitly adopt those opinions decreed as errors by the preceding generation, and not unfrequently appropriate as their own discoveries, the hints of their forerunners in the work of reform. They who are willing to think, and are not completely frightened by the bugbear of prejudice will find much food in these volumes. They will find many materials plentifully arranged to serve as incentives to thinking. If they cannot acquiesce in all points they may be stimulated to that healthful exercise of mind, which promotes the vigour of the mental faculties. Rust is generally attendant on disuse, and is very prevalent in this day, when so many indolently repose on authority without examination. h.

Poems, and Songs on different subjects; by Andrew M'Kenzie. Belfast printed by Alexander Mackay, 1810, 180 p. p. 12mo. price 3s. 4d.

WE have not changed our opinion, that poetry being a delicacy, not a necessary of life, should be very good, or writers should be content to write in plain prose. Yet this rule requires a latitude of construction, and before judging by the strict canons of criticism it is proper to examine how far what

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is offered to the public may not afford very allowable gratification to a numerous class of readers. They who cannot reach to the luxury of pine apples, or probably would not relish them, if they met with them for the first time, have a good right to please themselves with such articles of their native country as are within their reach, and to such a good apple is a pleasing enjoyment. All classes of readers should be gratified. On looking over the list of subscribers, it at first occurred that the book was needlessly swelled by inserting the long and respectable list; but this very list soon furnished some subjects for reflection, and afforded an ample plea for the publication of this little volume. Among the subscribers may be found many in the middle classes of life, farmers and others, and it was pleasing to observe that a taste for reading was spreading in this rank, and a hope was cherished that like our neighbours the Scotch peasantry, our people were attending to the cultivation of a literary taste suited to their circumstances. Such a mode of employing leisure would tend to the improvement of manners, and the amelioration of the heart. How preferable is the mode of employing time that can be spared from the more pressing avocations of life, both by writers and readers, in this manner, and in exertions to improve in intellectual acquirements, than in the noisy brawls of the ale-house, or in an exposure to the risques which attend the nightly dances on the homely barn floor, a frequent source, we fear, of corruption of manners. Actuated by these considerations it is truly pleasing to us to see this volume written in a simple and instructive manner, and so respectably encouraged by a numerous list of subscribers in that class, whose attention we are glad to see turned to the acquisition of knowledge.

The author inculcates good morals. There is nothing harsh in his simple rains. He sometimes rises to a considerable degree of neatness, particularly in "The broken heart," "Reflections on a brook," and "The ode to sleep," as well as in some other parts of the volume. "The storm" is a feeling

warping against the inhuman conduct still too common in some places, of plundering wrecked ships. "Elegy an elegy," pathetically relates the death of a young woman lost in the snow, on her return towards home.

We are less satisfied with "The Peasant's return." It is evidently an imitation of Gray's elegy, and imitations are seldom successful. "The sonnet to a primrose" is well expressed, and as the author alludes to the primrose as emblematical of himself, we shall select it as a specimen of his powers of song.

"Sweet, modest flow'ret, that, beneath the thorn
Unfold'st thy beauties in the lonely dell,
I meet thy fragrance in the breeze of morn;
In wilds where solitude and silence dwell
Thou' garden flow'rs a richer tint display,
They oft demand the planter's nice care;
While thou appear'st beneath some sheltering
spray,

"Mid April's lingering frosts, and piercing air.
How like the rustic poet's lot is thine!
Whom nature taught the simple song to make,
Doomed in oblivion's darkest shades to pine,
He champs, but seldom gains the meed of praise.
So, in some pathless desert thou art thrown,
To shed thy sweet perfume and fade unknown."

To sum up, the fastidious critic will not in these poems find much to carp at, while the good natured reader will in many places find much cause to be pleased.

We take our leave of the writer who is altogether personally unknown to us, with feelings of respect and esteem, and shall conclude with some remarks, which appear applicable to writers of this class, without knowing how far they may apply in his case. At any rate they may be useful as general hints. The pursuit of poetry ought only to occupy a subordinate station; and the serious business of life, and the scrupulous and conscientious regard to our relative duties being first in importance, should also have the first place in the allotment of our time. Poets should be careful to avoid that pedantry which arises from superficial knowledge, and mistaking the little height they have already gained for the summit of knowledge. Conviviality is often fatal to poets, by which they are led unwares sometimes into the grossness of debauch among their companions, and the danger is by no means lessened, if those with whom they get into association should be of a rank in life considered as superior to their

own. Poor Robert Burns, that child of genius, but of error, stands as an awful beacon to warn poets against danger. Probably there is little danger in this country, and in these times of being hurt by patronage, but the Caledonian Hunt proved ruinous to the morals and happiness of the Scotch bard. Poets should especially learn

prudence, for without it, genius only bewilders and leads astray. They also should not be too easily satisfied with their own productions, and when much time cannot with propriety be devoted to literary studies, let them rather aim to do a little well, than seek to increase in bulk at the expense of correctness. K.

DISCOVERIES AND IMPROVEMENTS IN ARTS, MANUFACTURES, &c.

Patent of Willaim Eocrard Baron von Doornick for certain improvements in the manufacture of Soap, to wash with Sea water, and hard water.

Dated Feb. 1809.

AFTER a preamble, enumerating the various substances which have hitherto been used for making soap (for the greater security of the patent) any of which the patentee declares may be used in his method; by uniting them to the gall of animals, and lime in various states of combination; the following particular directions are given for making this soap.

To make soap for the purpose of washing with sea water, and hard water, take about one hundred and twelve pounds of tallow, or a proportionate quantity of fat, oil, or other substance of which soap is made, and proceed by any of the usual processes, to convert it into soap, or nearly so. Then add about eighty pounds of fine carbonate of lime, or other calcareous substance in combination with about ten gallons of weak soap leys, or with water; but the solution of soap leys and the carbonate of lime are preferred. These are to be introduced into the soap, both being in a warm state, agitating the mass for several hours, and raising and keeping the same to the boiling point, which is generally sufficient to convert the whole mass into soap, or that state which is technically called finished. Then the fire is to be withdrawn, and after suffering the mass to cool, to the temperature of about one hundred and eighty degrees of Fahrenheit's scale, about

seven pints of the gall of animals are to be added, which if in a coagulated state is to be diluted with a small quantity of water or weak soap leys continuing the agitation till a complete mixture takes place, when it is put into frames in the usual way, and when it is sufficiently cooled, it is cut up as is usually done by soap makers. By this means the soap produced will answer the purpose of washing in sea water, and in hard water, and is more economical, and scours, and washes better than soap made by any former process.

To make soap for washing in soft water, and all other purposes for which common soaps are used, the patentee proceeds in the manner described, except that to every hundred and twelve pounds of tallow, or proportionate quantity of any other substance (used for the same purpose) about twenty eight pounds of fine carbonate of lime, or other fit calcareous substance is added along with about nine gallons of weak soap leys, or water, and about two pints of animal gall.

To improve soft soap, and make it wash in hard water, and sea water, the patentee takes soft soaps, formed of any substance usual; or proceeds in the usual way to make soft soap; to every hundred weight of which he adds about fifty six pounds of fine carbonate of lime, or other fit calcareous substance, in a state of solution, with about twelve gallons of pearl ash or pot ash leys, or of any other soap leys of which soft soap is made, of a middling strength; the soap and

solution are to be united, both in a warm state, and are at the same time to be well agitated, and brought to the temperature of about one hundred and eighty of Fahrenheit's scale; than about seven pints of animal gall are to be added, and when they are intimately mixed, the soap is completed, and will answer all the purposes above mentioned.

To improve soft soap, for general purposes in soft water, proceed as described in the last process, only observe to add about nineteen pounds of the carbonate of lime, or other fit calcareous substance, in solution with about ten gallons of pearl ash or potash leys; or of other soap leys, of which soft soap is made, of a middling strength, and about two pints of animal gall in lieu of the proportions above described. Soap made in this way will wash and scour woollens, flannels, cotton, linen, and a variety of other articles, in a superior manner to soaps made in any manner before publicly known.

The proportions mentioned, are those which the patentee has found by long experience to be best calculated to effect the object desired; but he has prefixed the word *about* to each quantity specified, because though the proportions stated are sufficient for the purpose, yet a small variation may be made in the quantities of the different component parts of the patent soap, without producing in any material alteration.

Patent of Mr. Michael Shannon of Berwick-street, London, for improvement in the art of Brewing.

Dated March, 1810.

Mr. Shannon's improvement in Brewing consists in making the liquor circulate through the infusion vessel (or mashing tub) and the boiler, by the action of a forcing pump.

The apparatus, by which this is effected, is principally an infusing vessel closed at top, having two sets of pipes communicating with the top and bottom of the boiler in such a manner, that a forcing pump, joined to them, can be made to impel the liquor through the malt in the infusing vessel and through the boiler, either

from the bottom upwards, or from the top downwards according as cocks placed in these pipes are turned in different directions.

The infusing vessel is also provided with two false bottoms, or perforated partitions, withinside, one near its top, and another near its bottom, to allow the liquor or wort to pass more freely through it during the time of operating, it has also a small door near each extremity for putting in and taking out the malt, which doors are closed tight by screws; and for greater security the top and bottom of the vessel are also fastened to the sides by screws; there is besides an open pipe rising upwards from the top to let off the air, and a cock at its bottom to let off the liquor when the infusion is completed; this infusing vessel is, as represented in the drawing, about half the diameter of the boiler, and twice its height in length, and is placed in a sloping position, so that the lower edge of its top may reach just above the top of the boiler; near the forcing pump, an air vessel is fastened, similar to that in fire engines and for the same purpose of keeping up a constant uniform motion in the impelled fluid.

The boiler is closed at top, has a cock to let off the liquor, when required, and in other respects is fitted up in the usual manner.

The patentee concludes his specification with stating, that by these improvements, the wort may be made as strong as the proportions of materials will allow; that the inconvenient and and imperfect operation of mashing is avoided; and that the sprout, or exhausted grain may be afterwards drawn out with great facility and saving of labour; he also states that a similar apparatus may be applied for passing the wort through hops instead of boiling; in case the same should be preferred either for economy, or for giving strength or peculiar flavour to the liquor.

Observation.... The purpose of Mr. Shannon's apparatus, might be probably effected equally well by one of simpler construction. The patentee seems to prefer making the liquor pass from below upwards through the malt in the infusing vessel, and as there

oes not appear to be any great use in making it pass both ways, confining its course to the first mentioned direction, would alone render half the number of pipes and cocks unnecessary. The method of placing the doors for putting in the malt seems to be well contrived: if an erect position would do equally well for the fusing vessel, a single door at the top would be kept tight easier, and is much more convenient; and as to the inclined position in which this vessel is represented in the drawing, which accompanies the specification, its utility cannot be imagined, as the patentee has neglected to point out, or give any hint which might enable us to conjecture what it might be.

To give any decided opinion as to the advantage of this new process for brewing, would be premature, before its actual success has been experienced, but at least it may be allowed to commend the ingenuity of the contrivance, and to declare that it seems very likely to have all the advantages pointed out by the patentee, and therefore highly to merit a fair trial: to apply the same process to hops, requires some caution, but it is the opinion of some men of experience, that a simple infusion of the hops in hot water, without oiling them, would give the liquor the best flavour: and if we may reason from what occurs in the management of tea, of which the simple infusion is so pleasing, while the oiled liquor from it is nauseous, it is highly probable that this opinion is well founded.

Patent of Mr. Stephen, Hooper, of Walworth (near London) for a thermometer, for ascertaining the heat of Bakers' ovens and for other purposes

The principle of this instrument which is the same as that of other metallic thermometers) may be variously applied; but the mode preferred by the patentee, consists of a brass tube equal in length to the oven, and about an inch and quarter in diameter; into this a rod of fir or other straight grained wood, is introduced,

nearly of the same length as the brass tube, without sticking. The tube and rod are fastened to each other at one end, so that if any expansion or contraction take place in the brass tube through change of temperature, that change will be indicated at the other end by comparing the length of the tube with that of the rod, which has a scale fixed to it for that purpose; but as the divisions are too minute to be well discerned on a simple scale, the patentee prefers one made to multiply the space of the changes, by a lever, a combination of levers, or by a rack and pinion, according to the methods usual for pyrometers; the particular method which he uses, is to affix a rack to the end of the brass tube, and cause the rack to turn a small pinion, and to place on the axis of the pinion, a hand or index, which points the degree of expansion or heat, upon a circular plate properly divided. The pinion and the plate in which the axis of the pinion and the plate in which the axis of the pinion turns, are affixed to the wooden rod.

For applying this thermometer to use, a channel or hole is made in the brick work of the oven, about six inches below and parallel to the bottom of the oven, extending from the mouth to the farther end, in such a manner, that a vertical plane passing through this channel, would nearly bisect the oven and door. The thermometer is introduced into this channel, leaving the index end exposed to view below the door of the oven. The channel or hole may be also made in any other convenient part of the oven, but the patentee seems to prefer that above mentioned.

Farther account of the bells moved by De Luc's electric Column.

The bells before noticed, are stated in the 150th No. of the Philosophical Journal, to have been ringing on the 24th of August, and to be as likely to continue their motion as at first; they have now moved incessantly for 152 days.

To this account, a request is now added that if any mechanical gentleman knows a good method, by

which a vibrating pendulum can give motion to wheel work, he may communicate it: as it is much wished that an instrument may be made, which by the motion of an index hand and dial plate, may show the number of vibrations in a given time, caused by the electric column.

Of extracting a liquid Sugar from Apples and Pears, by Mr. Dubuc, manufacturing Chemist at Rouen.

Annales de Chimie.

The high price of Sugar on the continent has induced Proux, Parmentier, Cadet de Vaux, and other chemists, to investigate methods of obtaining it from various substances, and they have published processes more complicated, for obtaining it from grapes, apples and pears.

Several establishments having been formed in the south of France for making sugar from grapes, M. Dubuc wished that its northern extremity should have a similar advantage, and the excellent preserve, which has been made of apples and pears in that country for time immemorial, convinced him that the sugar prepared from them would be equal in quality, to that procured from grapes, and induced him to make experiments on them for that purpose.

First Experiment.

Eight *litres* or quarts, of the juice of very ripe apples, called *d'Orange*, were boiled in a copper bason, or boiler, for about a quarter of an hour, and then ten drachms or grammes of finely powdered chalk, were added to it, in four separate portions, two minutes after each other, in order to neutralize the acid in the juice: this substance occasioned a fermentation or effervescence in the juice. The boiling was then continued for eight, or ten minutes, and the juice was kept stirred, in order to multiply the points of contact between it and the chalk: after this it was clarified in the following manner.

Three whites of eggs were beat up in three glasses of cold water, and whipped with a willow whisk, when the whites were well frothed, they were added at once to the juice, and well mixed by stirring it quickly with the same whisk; it was then

left to boil for another quarter of an hour. The white of egg coagulated by being boiled, and collects all impurities of the juice. After the juice was strained through a fine strainer supported at the corners on a wooden frame.

It was then left to grow half cold and again strained, in order to be it very clear and well clarified.

The juice only lost about a third of its weight during these operations, what remained was reduced by boiling slowly, to about one of its original bulk; the process then finished without boiling until syrup took, when cooled, a consistence like that of common treacle.

It may also be known to be properly prepared by a thick skin may be observed at the surface of the liquid, or even by its specific gravity compared with that of water. A vessel which contains a quart or two pounds of water, old French measure, ought to contain 2 lb. 11 oz. of syrop, or liquid sugar. The last method is the best and most certain.

The above eight quarts of juice yielded near three pounds of liquid sugar, savoury, fresh, and which sweetens water very well, or a milk without curdling it (which addition of the chalk prevents neutralizing the acid, which would have this effect) so that it would be an advantageous substitute for treacle sugar.

M. Dubuc gives an account thirteen other experiments, which made to obtain sugar from various species of apples and pears, which our limits will not permit recitation, the processes used in them did not however vary materially that related, and the chief facts observed in them are contained in the following recapitulation of the experiments, inserted at the end of M. Dubuc's paper.

Recapitulation.

1. Of the four ripe kinds of apples which were used, it was found that the orange produced the most sugar, (it came *Doux-livesque*, after the *blanc mollet*, and lastly the *Gris*).
2. That a mixture of these

ties of fruits yielded an agreeable sap, or sugar, in a certain proportion to the quantity employed.

That apples or pears, which have thoroughly ripened, are not so fit for making sugar, and they yield of it, and of an inferior quality, when they are ripe.

That sugar may be obtained from pears called *Pillage*, but it is of inferior quality and in less quantity than that from apples, supposing two fruits taken in equal measure.

That apples, which are not thoroughly ripe should be well bruised, then be left for 24 hours, in order that the saccharine principle may be developed by the incipient fermentation; they yielded by this method more sugar, and that of better quality.

These principles are equally applicable to pears.

That in order to procure apple sap, which does not curdle milk, it is absolutely necessary to neutralize the acid; and that it requires about *treishin*: (troy) of chalk powder every quart of juice, and two thirds to absorb the same quantity of acid contained in pear juice, which is that the latter juice contains less acid than the former.

That it is impossible to obtain the juice, or pear juice sufficiently clear to make a clear well tasted up, without using some intermediate clarification; and that either whites of eggs, or charcoal (finely powdered) may be employed for that purpose.

That in order to obtain liquid sap of good quality from apples and pears, the heat must be applied gently & carefully, observing in all points it has been remarked in the first following experiments, and especially it must be recollected, that the syrup becomes brown towards the end of the operation, and tastes of burned sugar, if it be too much heated.

10. That according to the fifth experiment and those that follow, a set of apples yield nearly eighty-four pounds of juice; which juice may be reduced to a syrup by the

above processes, yields nearly twelve pounds of liquid sugar. So that from these data it follows, that upon a medium of several years the price of apples being 1.20 francs (1s. 1d.) the cwt. and calculating the charges of making the sugar at 0.40 franc (4d) excellent sugar may be obtained for 3 or 4 sols (2d.) per lb.

In a note on the first experiment, it is observed, that as yet only a very small quantity of solid sugar has been obtained from apple-juice. Nearly twenty specimens have, however, been obtained, upon which experiments have just been made, in order to obtain, if possible, a larger quantity. And from this note it appears, that wherever sugar is mentioned in the above paper, liquid sugar or syrup must be understood.

Composition for Roofs; communicated by James Herguson, esq. of Plifhour, who received it from Commissioner Graham, of the Excise-office, Edinburgh.

From communications to the Board of Agriculture.

1st. Three parts of chalk, pounded fine, and passed through a sieve of twenty-four meshes to an inch, are to be put into a small wooden box or vessel.
2d. Into the middle of the chalk put one part of the best vegetable tar (Swedish will not do); mix them thoroughly with a wooden shovel, the tar to be poured in gradually; when completely mixed put it into an iron boiler, which must be moderately and gradually heated, stirring the composition to keep it from burning; after it has boiled for some time, dip in a lath, which is to be immediately cooled in water; if the composition on the lath is hard enough to resist the end of the finger, but yields to the nail, then it is ready to take the sand, which is to be prepared as follows:—Take the sharpest sand to be got, wash it if necessary, quite free from earth, and when dry pass it through a sieve of eight meshes to an inch; what passes is to be again sifted through one of sixteen meshes; that which does not pass is the coarse, or No. 1; sift again that which passed through sixteen, through one of thirty, and reject all the fine dust

that passes; that which does not pass is fine sand, or No. 2. Mix these two kinds of sand in the proportion of five of No. 1, to two of No. 2, and of this sand so mixed, take four parts; heat it well, either in a brick furnace or on an iron plate or boiler as above, stirring it very briskly all the while, so as to mix and incorporate the ingredients thoroughly, and prevent the sand from sinking to the bottom. The composition being thus prepared is to be carried immediately to the place where it is to be laid on, in small light kettles, and spread even with trowels (like plasterers) made hot also, that it may not cool before the surface is made perfectly smooth: less nicety is required, when the whole is covered with earth.

The composition is to be laid on a flooring of rough boards, of three inches wide and three quarters of an inch thick, nailed as close as possible to the joists, hot, and about a quarter of an inch thick; and when cold, cover with another coat of the same thickness. A fall of one inch in ten feet is sufficient for these roofs. Over arches lay the composition rather thicker on a pavement of common tiles, made as flat as possible.

N. B. One barrel of tar and 45 stone of chalk, or whitening, will do thirty nine yards. The grate at Mintor for heating the irons, or trowels, is twenty inches square by six inches deep, the peel twelve inches longer. A piece of strong sheet iron, four feet long, with the edges turned up about four inches, will do for drying the sand. Iron pots, about twenty Scotch pints, are of a convenient size; four of these built in, and used in succession, will keep two men employed in spreading the composition.

Observation. The description of the instrument used for spreading the composition must be erroneous, as one so thin as a plasterer's trowel would retain heat too short a time to be of any use. Spreading the composition on boards does not appear to be of a good practice, as boards are so liable to shrink and expand, from the variations of the damp and dryness of the air, that the composition laid on them must be always full of cracks, caused by this circumstance.

In many other respects as well as the above, the directions given before in this Magazine for this kind of road (particularly those communicated by Mr. Bevens) are preferable to those of Mr. Graham; which are only inserted here, that the readers of this work may have a better opportunity of comparing them with those before given.

Description of a Machine for washing potatoes, and other esculent roots, invented by Mr. William Lister of Paddington. From Soc. Arts.

This machine consists of a barrel, or hollow cylindrical vessel, formed of two circular boards, with a number of staves connecting them, six of which are fastened at the ends to two pieces of wood so as to form a door, which is opened to put in or take out the potatoes. This cylinder has an axis passing through its centre, which is turned by a winch, and which has a small wheel or pulley put on each of its extremities, to admit of the cylinder being passed forwards and backwards along a frame, which turns on pivots, between two vessels, in such a manner that when one end of it is depressed, the cylinder rolls down over one of them, and when the other end is lowered, it passes back over the other; one of these vessels contains water, into which the cylinder is lowered by depressing the end of the frame next to it, and the potatoes are then washed by turning it round in the water; and when the operation is completed, the cylinder is made to come over the other vessel into which the washed potatoes are deposited, by undrawing the bolts which keep the door of the cylinder shut. The cylinder is again filled with potatoes, and the operation repeated until the whole quantity is washed. One end of the frame extends much farther from the point on which it turns, than the other end, in order to serve as a lever for raising up the weight of the cylinder; the short end terminates in iron hooks, turning upwards and backwards towards the pivots, to prevent the cylinder from falling off; stops are also placed at this end, to prevent the other end from descending lower than

might be convenient. The silver medal was voted to Mr. Lester for this invention by the society for the encouragement of Arts.

Observation. The machine of this kind which is placed in the repository of the society, has every appearance of being very well calculated for the purpose intended, both in its original design, and in the manner in which it is put into execution; which is one with that attention to strength, and durability, that is so desirable for complements, which must be submitted to the rough usage of labourers; there can be little doubt but that it would be found extremely serviceable, wherever large quantities of potatoes or other roots were to be washed; and would be particularly useful in places where cattle are fed with these kinds of vegetables.

An Account of the Method of manufacturing Salt at Moutiers, in the department of Mont Blanc. By M. Berthier, Mine Engineer.

Continued from p. 299, No. XXVII.

In respect to the evaporation, it is necessary that the greatest possible proportion of water should be got rid of, relatively to the quantity of wood that is consumed; and the boilers are very far from being arranged in such manner as to obtain this maximum of evaporation. They are very faulty, which is now perceived, and which is intended to correct.

1°. The boilers are placed separately, and each of them has a very large fire-place. From this disposition, a great proportion of the heat that is developed is taken up to heat the masonry, and another portion is entirely lost, being taken off by the combustible vapours which the burning wood yields in large quantity, and which go off up the chimney in a very thick black smoke.

2°. The fire-place has a grate; all the small coals which are produced from the wood falls into the ash pit, and is consumed without yielding any benefit.

3°. So far from favouring the evaporation by a current of dry air sweeping all the surface of the liquid, all manner of circulation is rendered impossible from the enormous beams

that almost touch it. The boiler is therefore as it were half shut up with a cover which stops the steam, condenses it, and opposes an obstacle to the evaporation.

4°. The great number of iron bars which rise up from the bottom of the boilers, to be fastened to the beams, are a very great hindrance to the work. The workmen who take away the schelot and the salt, cannot help leaving lumps in those corners where the peels cannot come. These lumps retain the heat, the salt calcines, and sticks to the bottom: this being unequally dilated, bends, splits, and lets the brine run out. The sediment continually increases, and from hence arises that thick crust of scales which must be knocked off the boiler at the expiration of a certain number of boilings.

In order to evaporate 30 or 40 met. cub. of brine, or 3600 or 4000 myriagrammes (scores) 50, 60, or even 70 steres of wood are consumed. The consumption of this fuel was formerly much less, because they used scarcely any thing but coals for the collection of the salt. It is not conceivable how a practice so very advantageous was left off. It must very soon be again taken up from necessity; but this will not happen till all the fine forests which the Tarentaise formerly possessed are entirely consumed, and the country, in other respects very poor, is reduced to the utmost distress.

The use of coals is dictated by the most urgent necessity. The salt works only possess wood enough for seven or eight years; if they are continued on the present establishment, there will remain at the end of that period no wood to mix with the coals, and a stop must be put to the works.

Nevertheless, there are numerous beds of coals in the neighbourhood of the establishment; and all the trials that have been made with this fuel have had very satisfactory results.

The coal found in the Tarentaise is dry, not bituminous; it incinerates with difficulty, burns with a very slight flame, does not cake together, and produces a very considerable heat. It is necessary to mix it with one-tenth part of wood in order to

Δ Δ Δ

bring it to burn. It is adapted for the forge, and the neighbouring smiths make no complaint respecting it.

Mr. Roche, the director of the salt-works, who is more aware than any other person, how necessary it is to substitute some more common fuel instead of wood, has made several trials with this coal, which have showed that it may be used without any

loss of time, and with great advantage in respect to expense.

The quantities of fuel consumed in these experiments have shown that to evaporate 1235 decigram. cub. of water, it required 4 steres of wood, or 559 myriagr. of coals. The trials were made in a boiler of plate-iron, whose capacity was 60 decimet. cub. and which was only half filled.

4 steres of wood, at 4 fr. 75 cent. each is fr. 19.0 cent.
569 myriagr. of coals, at 22 cent. each is 12.40

The profit is therefore 6.60.

The following tables shew the composition of the several products of these salt-works. Brine as it comes from the shed No. 1 and 2, marking 1st 6 by Baume's hydrometer.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|----------|
| Carbonate of lime (whiting) | 0.000505 |
| Sulphate of lime (gypsum) | 0.008700 |
| Sulphate of magnesia (Epsom salt) | 0.000560 |
| Sulphate of soda (Glauber's salt) | 0.001300 |
| Muriate of soda (common salt) | 0.010600 |
| Muriate of magnesia | 0.000320 |
| Oxyd of iron, some traces | |
| Total | 0.015985 |

Sediments left by the brine in the troughs.

| | Near the spring. | Near the sheds. |
|--------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Red oxyd of iron | 85. | 5 |
| Carbonates of lime | 5. | 93. |
| Suspended matters | 4. | veg. subst. 2. |
| Water | 6. | — |
| Total | 100. | 100. |

Sediments left on the thorns.

| | Shed No 1 and 2. | No. 3. | No. 4. |
|-------------------------|------------------|--------|--------|
| Carbonate of lime | 6.60 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Carbonate of iron | some traces | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Muriate of soda | 0.05 | 0.34 | 0.25 |
| Sulphate of soda (lime) | 93.35 | 99.76 | 99.75 |
| Total | 100.00 | 100.00 | 100.00 |

Graduated brine.

| | From the clearing cistern, at 18° 15. | From the boiling when saturated and at 26° hyd. |
|----------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| Sulphate of lime | 0.0030 | 0.0000 |
| Sulphate of magnesia | 0.0080 | 0.0148 |
| Sulphate of soda | 0.0265 | 0.0281 |
| Muriate of soda | 0.1600 | 0.2350 |
| Muriate of magnesia | 0.0046 | 0.0107 |
| | 0.2021 | 0.3086 |

Schelat, or raking of the boilers.

| | First. | Second. | Last. |
|------------------|-------------|---------|-------|
| Sulphate of lime | 28.00 | 41.10 | 10.10 |
| Sulphate of soda | 24.5 | 52.65 | 25.68 |
| Muriate of soda | 47.5 | 6.25 | 64.22 |
| Magnesian salts, | some traces | | |
| | 100. | 100. | 100. |

| Salt made in the boilers, | First. | Second. | Last. |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|--------|
| Sulphate of lime | 1.58 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Sulphate of magnesia | some traces | 0.25 | 12.50 |
| Sulphate of soda | 3.80 | 5.55 | 0.00 |
| Muriate of magnesia | some traces | 0.61 | 2.00 |
| Total impurity | 5.38 | 6.41 | 14.50 |
| Muriate of soda | 94.64 | 93.59 | 85.50 |
| Total | 100.00 | 100.00 | 100.00 |
| Salt made in the rope shed. | From the cistern. | From the ropes. | |
| Sulphate of magnesia | 0.40 | 0.58 | |
| Sulphate of soda | 0.75 | 2.00 | |
| Muriate of magnesia | 0.18 | 0.25 | |
| Total impurity | 1.33 | 2.83 | |
| Muriate of soda | 98.67 | 97.17 | |
| | 100.00 | 100.00 | |

| Scales from the bottoms of the boilers, | as collected. | When crystallised. |
|---|---------------------|----------------------|
| Sulphate of lime | 10.65 | 10.81 |
| Sulphate of magnesia | 3.00 | 4.61 |
| Sulphate of soda | 18.68 | 35.30 |
| Muriate of magnesia | 0.75 | 0.80 |
| Muriate of soda | 57.34 | 48.38 |
| Water | 9.60 | 0.10 |
| Total | 100.00 | 100.00 |
| Mother water | Of muriate of soda. | Of sulphate of soda. |
| Sulphate of magnesia | 0.0950 | 0.0420 |
| Sulphate of soda | 0.0000 | 0.0600 |
| Muriate of magnesia | 0.0485 | 0.0540 |
| Muriate of soda | 0.2080 | 0.1990 |
| Total | 0.3515 | 0.3550 |

| Sediment of the mother water of muriate of soda. | First. | Second. | Third. |
|--|--------|---------|--------------|
| Sulphate of magnesia | 11.74 | 0.25 | some traces. |
| Sulphate of soda | 48.86 | 56.50 | 95.00 |
| Muriate of magnesia | 0.60 | 0.25 | some traces. |
| Muriate of soda | 41.30 | 43.00 | 5.00 |
| Total | 100.00 | 100.00 | 100.00 |

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RETROSPECT OF POLITICS.

WHAT NEWS OF PHILIP? So in the language of apathy and exclusive security the Athenians spent their

time in fruitless inquiries, while the conqueror of Greece consolidated his power, and pursued his measures of

tyranny. In vain was the manly eloquence of Demosthenes exerted to arouse this people—"O Athenians, make news for Philip."

Inhabitants of the British Isles, make news for Bonaparte! Reform at home, and you most effectually frustrate the plans of the conqueror of continental Europe. Cease the cowardly and unmannerly abuse of him, and defeat him by the only means which perhaps are left; and shew him that Liberty, the imperishable spirit of Freedom, can set his power and his legions at defiance. We have been too tardy in opposing him by this powerful engine, and we have too long, and, it is feared, too fatally given way to an ungenerous suspicion against our best ally, and most firm support. Unite at home, concede nobility and frankly to all sects, seek not strength in the bonds of corruption and influence, but in the reformation of abuses, and the too long delayed correction of defects. It is vain to abuse the modern Philip for abridging the liberty of the press, and to waste our eloquence declaiming against the restrictions which allow only one shackled and muzzled press at Frankfort. Let us look at home, for there "a groan of accusation pierces heaven." The virtuous Wakefield suffered under two years imprisonment in Dorchester gaol. The editor and publisher of the Independent Whig are now undergoing a three years imprisonment, a large portion of a man's life to be cut off from the enjoyments of the open air. Cobbett is in Newgate, and Gale Jones and Peter Fimerty are on the point of receiving sentence. Yet if a man complains, our courtly editors of a venal or timid press call such complaints the language of party, and secure in their own more than suspicious neutrality, are indifferent to the well-grounded complaints of the people. But what means this contemptuous affectation of calling out a party? Are not the administrators of the powers of government often a party, and a small party, strong only because they are in possession of the purse of the nation, and the patronage of office. When opposed to the people they are a party, and not un frequently a faction, and all the evils of party spirit, and of faction, are by them inflicted on the nation. It is absurd in the extreme to denominate all who oppose their encroachments as agents of

party; it is too common an abuse of language arising with some from a desire to cloak their own dishonest and cowardly conduct, and in others from an indiscriminating adoption of set phrases, without examining their import. Many thus fall into a cant of expression, and praise or censure according to the modishness of the times. A sagacious observer of events for the last thirty years must have observed many changes of fashionable opinion in that time, and the names of things have changed while their nature remained unaltered. It would be curious to see a dictionary of fashionable opinions, which would convey an exact impression of every annual change, published once a year as an almanack or court calendar. Many men might then behold as in a mirror the phases of their minds.

In a retrospect which professes in some measure

"To shew
"The very age and body of the time,
"Its form and pressure,"

It may be proper to note the Stamford Ghost. In the nineteenth century, in England which calls itself enlightened, a scene of imposture has been practised, and credit given to it by a grave clergyman, a man by courtesy supposed to be of superior information, who has written two pamphlets in support of the credibility by a house being haunted by a supernatural noise, at Stamford, in England. This trick of the noise is evidently for some interested purpose, which common sense, and a little exertion might soon detect. The circumstance is unworthy of notice in any other point of view, than as marking the times in no very honourable characters. Such things are not credited merely among the vulgar, but let us remember that learning and wisdom are not synonymous, while men of learning lend an easy ear to those stories of grovelling superstition. In Ireland, even in Ulster, we have had our ghost stories, and houses haunted by noises. When such tales find an admittance among the higher classes, who from their superior advantages ought to be the best informed, the present age must admit of many drawbacks on their claims to the higher advances in civilization.

If the *bedarkeners* had their way unceasured, and uncontroled, we should speedily return again to the darkness of the middle ages, and the human intellect would once more be retrogressive into ignorance, and barbarism.

The report of the committee of the House of Commons on sinecures, part of which was given among the documents, in the last number, and the remainder in the present, affords some curious information as to the mode of disposing of the public money, and lays open to view one cause of the burdens of the people. A hive is not in a thriving state when it is infested with many drones. Economical reform is essentially wanting, but a party of economical reformists wish to represent it the sole remedy for all the evils of our state. As a branch of reform, it would be of great advantage, but of itself its efficacy would be very small. We have not only to look for a present alleviation of public abuses, but such a radical reform, as would effectually prevent their repetition. Otherwise it is of small importance whether we read Grenville or Percival as first lord of the treasury. They both and their relations hold many sinecures. Parliamentary reform can alone serve us. Compromises are always hurtful to the interests of the people, who suffer by a coalition of leaders, and the neutralizing of principles.

The Catholics of Ireland have at their last meeting resolved to petition parliament in the ensuing session. At this meeting we heard no repetition of the extravagant hyperbole of preferring a repeal of the Union to a removal of the Penal Statutes.

Doubts had prevailed as to the propriety of petitioning, but at this meeting, held in Dublin on the 2d inst. the motives for petitioning very properly preponderated, from the considerations that the discussions in parliament had a strong tendency to enlighten the public mind, on the justice and good policy of laying aside all disqualifications on account of religious distinctions, and because that latterly the people of England have altered their sentiments and practice very considerably towards the liberal

side. In the course of the debate it was urged with great propriety, that a distinction should be made between the people of England and the members of administration: that although the latter, and probably some of those who are striving to be their successors, are deficient in enlarged and liberal views, yet that hence no jealousy should be permitted to insinuate itself between Englishmen and Irishmen, nor should censure be indiscriminately thrown, as has been too commonly done, on the British nation for the errors of its rulers. In both countries a common ground of complaint exists, and united efforts to promote reform should take place of all illiberal jealousies and prejudices against each other. The happiness and prosperity of both countries would be essentially promoted by a joint co-operation to procure a removal of those grievances, which prove equally injurious both to Britain and Ireland. It is necessary to discriminate between a nation and its government, and leaving all minor considerations it would be magnanimous in Ireland to bury all old grudges, and join with their brethren in Britain in seeking for a parliamentary reform, and the removal of disqualifications on account of religion, as the only effectual means of removing former causes of dissatisfaction between the countries, and ensuring their common safety. Thus united on the solid basis of a substantial reform, they would have little to fear from their external enemies, while dissention and disunion may lead to great dangers.

It is probable that Catholic Emancipation will at no very distant period be conceded to the just demands and increasing liberality of the times. The disqualifications of Protestant Dissenters should then also be urged. In England the test laws most essentially abridge their liberty. On the broad basis of universal liberty of conscience many impediments are yet to be removed. Dissenters have for some years remained inactive, discouraged by the failure of their former attempts and the unfavourableness of the times for the admission of just claims. But may we not be allowed to anticipate the removal

of the black clouds of prejudice, which our superstitious horror of the French revolution, and our ungenerous jealousy of freedom have occasioned? The venerable Christopher Wyvill and some other liberal members of the establishment have set the example of bringing forward the claims of dissenters in their petition to the last session of parliament. Dissenters should second these generous efforts, and not supinely relinquish the cause of religious liberty.

Last year we praised the Associate Anti-Burgher Synod of Seceders of Ireland, for refusing to receive the Regium Donum. Alas! this year we have to record their acceptance of it. Such too often is the progress of temptation!

“For when too long familiar with her face,

“We first endure, then pity, then embrace.”

The Regium Donum, or bounty for the dissenting clergy, may be considered as an insidious plan to stifle struggling patriotism, and to reduce to the tameness of submission.

The Spanish Cortes have after a long debate and much opposition decreed in favour of the liberty of the press. The prejudices of theological intolerance and of civil despotism were leagued against it, lest the people should be enlightened to seek their rights, by increasing the powers of the mind in judging of their spiritual concerns beyond the narrow limits of prescribed routine, and by resisting the oppressive of their ecclesiastical and civil rules. The Cortes have been engaged in forming a new regency, and have rejected one of the proposed regents, the Marquis del Palachio, for refusing to take the oath in the prescribed form; but their proceedings are communicated to us in such scraps, and we are so little acquainted with the leading characters, that no accurate judgment can as yet be formed of their proceedings, or whether they have the power or the inclination to save their country from the grasp of French usurpation, by an exertion of the energies of freedom. Some of their members hold a determined tone, and speak in the accents of liberty. If such a disposition prevail, they may yet do much good.

The Ex king of Sweden has arrived

in England. He appears to have fallen a victim to his own unwise and rash counsels. Ambition operating on a weak mind, and a foolish affection of aiming to copy the exploits of his renowned predecessors, Gustavus Vasa and Gustavus Adolphus, without a calculation of the diminished resources of Sweden, have led to the ruin of his fortunes. Some parts of his conduct appear inexplicable on the supposition of his mental sanity. We have never seen a satisfactory explanation of his conduct towards Sir John Moore.

The houses of Lords and Commons unexpectedly assembled on the 1st inst. in consequence of the incapacity of the King to affix his sign manual to the commission for proroguing the Parliament. An adjournment took place to the 15th to allow the members time to assemble, and on that day a further adjournment was carried by a large majority to the 29th. Ministers are not backward in manœuvres and intrigue on the occasion in protracting the measures of declaring the King's incapacity, and proceeding to appoint the Prince of Wales regent, because they anticipate the loss of their places from such an event, and those who expect to be their successors stand aloof with affected coyness, eagerly wishing to step into their places, but also desirous to keep up the appearance of great moderation and forbearance. The manly conduct of Sir Francis Burdett, in pressing the point to a decision by a vote disconcerted both parties. He urged the propriety of sitting with only adjournments from day to day to be ready to act as circumstances might render necessary in the present critical emergency. In this difficult conjuncture it is difficult to form even a wish as to the change of the ministry. A change of measures, not merely of men, can alone be the object of rational desire. The incapability and narrow illiberality of the present men are conspicuous, but in their probable successors some have not great confidence. Their superior talents are admitted, but the shreds and patches of the old Fox party in conjunction with the Grenvilles; the former coadjutors, and present praisers of “the Great Statesman, now no more,” do not furnish

many topics for consolation. In one most essential point, it is feared that both the rival parties agree as to the supposed necessity for carrying on the present ruinous, and eminently unsuccessful war; which entails misery and distress at home by its pressure on trade, and the heavy load of taxation, and which outrages humanity in the extremest degree, in the aggravated and unavailing sufferings attendant on our foreign expeditions. In one respect the men now in power add insult to injury, by mocking us with pompous, but delusive statements of our national prosperity, which are contradicted by the personal experience of most. The desire of change is natural, when we feel so much cause to be dissatisfied with our present state, and therefore without indulging any very sanguine expectations of benefit, many are willing to see the experiment tried, how their successors will act.

Public expectation has been long kept on the suspense regarding the issue of the business in Portugal.—Many buoyed up by the systematic deception long practised by most of the conductors of the public press, have eagerly anticipated the complete destruction of the French, and this cullibility has been from time to time fed by accounts of desertion and famine among them, and by slight skirmishes and doubtful engagements being magnified into great and splendid victories, yet still to the great disappointment of these sanguine speculators, Massena still retains his ground, while writers of paragraphs, and of private letters from Lisbon have repeatedly shifted their positions to account for their former calculations not having been fulfilled. The language of this retrospect has uniformly been desponding, too proud to flatter, and too honest to deceive. From seeing how often public expectation has been raised, and disappointed, and again, lest the people should reflect on these events, and acquire wisdom and distrust from dearly bought experience, other expeditions have been hinted out, and other hopes equally as fallacious have been excited both by

statesmen and their supporters; caution and a slowness to believe has been learned, and at the risk of having our motives misunderstood, and our love for our country misconceived, we have uniformly persisted in endeavouring to guard our readers against the delusions of the times. Present appearance do not authorize us to lessen our forebodings of disasters in Portugal, or to augur favourably of Lord Wellington's final success. His letters up to the 3d instant as published in the Gazette, are not calculated to inspire confidence. Notwithstanding the doubts he expresses of the French having been able to pass the Tagus; it is probable that they have succeeded in crossing the Zézere which afterwards communicates with the Tagus, and in securing a supply of provisions for their army from Alentejo, and the other southern provinces of Portugal. We look back at the past, and recollect that hopes of the success of other expeditions were encouraged to the very moment of their complete failure, and we see similar manœuvres are in the present case continued to be practised.

While censure is thus thrown on our rulers, the people ought to consider whether they don't essentially contribute to produce those effects, *and how far the sins of government become the sins of the nation.* Ministers seek to gain public favour by an affectation of vigour, and all the bustle, "the pomp and circumstance of an active state of warfare" and to gratify the people's fondness for war, and their own inclinations for peace, they fit out expedition after expedition.

If the people did not lean to this side, and were not satisfied by the sound of war, and its delusive fascinations, such attempts to gain their favour would not be practised; the war has certainly been popular; for in these countries, a fondness for war at a distance, a thing to talk of, but not to feel; has long been prevalent, and it is feared still continues popular, notwithstanding a change is effected in the public mind, by lessons learned in the school of adversity.

B b b

Some gain by the war, by having their children and connections provided for; and many without due reflection follow in the train of others, and suppose peace cannot be effected on any terms compatible with national safety. If peace were sought in the spirit of peace, no reasonable doubt exists, in the opinion of many, but a peace as permanent as the instability of human nature, and the fluctuating opinions, and clashing interests of mankind, would permit, might be made and preserved too; if wisdom and energy directed our councils, and if as great exertions were made by the people, and by government to promote the general welfare, as are now unhappily used to promote selfish interests, and to alienate nations from each other.

— "Men are brethren. Why
then delight,
In human sacrifice? Why burst the
ties
Of nature? that should knit their souls
together,
In one soft bond of amity and love?
Yet still they breathe destruction, still
go on,
Inhumanly ingenious to find out
New pains for life, new terrors for the
grave?
Artificers of death!"

DOCUMENTS.

PUBLIC EXPENDITURE.

The eighth Report from the Committee appointed to examine and consider what regulations and checks have been established, in order to controul the several branches of the Public Expenditure in Great Britain and Ireland, and how far the same have been effectual; and what further measures can be adopted for reducing any part of the said Expenditure, or diminishing the amount of Salaries and Emoluments, without detriment to the Public Service.

LINEN-BOARD, IRELAND.

The Board of Trustees of the Linen and Hempen Manufactures of Ireland, established the ninth year of the reign of Queen Anne, by an Act of the Irish Parliament, consists of seventy-two members, appointed for life by the Crown, and nominally allotted to the four provinces of Ireland, an equal number for each province. The product of

certain duties imposed on the importation of linseed oil, cocoa nuts and foreign linen, and on the exportation of raw hides, by certain Acts, 6th Geo. I. 1st Geo. II. (the amount of which is reported by the Commissioners of Parliamentary Inquiry, in their First Report, to have averaged in three years ending 5th January, 1805, the annual sum of £1104) and an annual Parliamentary Grant of £21,600, are intrusted to the care and direction of this Board, for the encouragement of those manufactures. The Trustees act without salary, and their attendance is voluntary: three members constitute a quorum.

An exact inquiry into the state of the funds intrusted to the care of this Board, appears to be more peculiarly the duty of your Committee, because the Trustees are not placed immediately under the controul of the Treasury with respect to the employment of their funds, although they account for the actual expenditure of the annual Parliamentary Grant, before the Commissioners of Imprest Accounts, and because great embezzlement of money appears to have taken place by two succeeding Secretaries (the last of which defaults remained unknown to the Trustees during several years after the death of the Secretary); and more particularly because the examination into the affairs of this Board is not amongst the duties confided to the Commissioners of Parliamentary Inquiry for Ireland. It is also to be observed, that no member of the Irish Executive Government is, *ex officio*, amongst the number of the Trustees.

It appears from the papers ordered by the House to be printed 18th May 1808, that the late Mr. Corry was appointed Secretary to the Board on the 18th December 1781; Mr. Newburgh, the former Secretary, and the Assistant-Secretary, having been removed for irregularities and misconduct, and the balance reported due from those officers was £17,767.

Mr. Corry died in November 1795, and at the time of his death stood indebted to the public for the sum of £14,775; but the existence of this balance was concealed from the Trustees by various means (which are detailed in the memorial of Mr. James Corry the younger, who had been by the Trustees in 1790 united with his father in this appointment) until the year 1804, under the delusive hope, which this young man states himself to have entertained, of clearing off the debt, and sheltering his father's memory from reproach. In that year

the Commissioners of Imperial Accounts, pursuing with sagacity and diligence their investigation, effected a discovery of the whole transaction, and of the existence of this balance remaining due to the Trustees.

The nature of the office of Secretary, so far at least as respects the drawing for, and issuing of monies, and consequently the means by which this sum had been misapplied to private purposes, are also detailed in Mr. Corry's memorial, and in the Report of the Committee of Trustees, to which your Committee refer, in the collection of Papers before-mentioned.

The Board of Treasury of Ireland, on the 7th of October 1805, having received the Report of the Commissioners of Accounts, called the serious attention of the Trustees to this important subject; and desired that they would report the steps which they deemed most advisable to pursue, for the speedy recovery of the balance; and also such new regulations as it might be proper to adopt, in their Finance Department, to prevent the recurrence of similar abuses.

In consequence of this letter, on the 15th of October, a Committee was appointed for those purposes; the Secretary was suspended, and the duties of his office during the suspension; and the Treasurer was acquainted, that he was not authorized to issue any money, except on an order counter-signed by three Trustees at a Board.

On the 17th of October, Mr. Corry presented the memorial before referred to, and annexed an account of the debts due by his father and himself, and the assets remaining for their discharge, which he proposed to assign for the public use; and those assets were reported by the Board's Law Agent, to exceed the amount of debt due to the public and private creditors of Mr. Corry, by £9451.

The Attorney-General, on reference to him, 18th November 1805, and 31st Jan. 1806, advised the acceptance of, and proceeding for recovery of those securities, and directed the mode of the assignment of them. Afterwards, on 2d June 1806, on a reference to him of a Minute and Report of the Linen Board, respecting the form of drawing on the Treasurer, in answer to a query, how far that officer was warranted in paying, on the authority of the draughts of the Secretary; and if not warranted, what proceedings should be adopted to recover from him the deficiencies of the Secretary; further declaring the Treasurer

fully warranted in making those payments, under a resolution of the Board in 1782, he added, "Although this is the only question, on which I am desired to give an opinion, I feel it my duty to remark, that questions of more importance appear to me to grow out of the late transactions; and that it appears to me important to ascertain by what authority, and in what manner, the various sums which have been misapplied, have been drawn from the public Treasury, and put into the management of the officers of the Board." Your Committee cannot but express their surprise, that no step whatever appears to have been taken on this suggestion. The case of Mr. Corry was, in 1806, referred to the Law Officers of the Crown by the Lord Lieutenant, to advise us to its becoming the subject of criminal prosecution; who were of opinion that it could not, and advised a suspension of other proceedings for recovery of the debt, until the value of the securities assigned could be ascertained.

Your Committee learn, that the proceedings in equity for that purpose, from the latest returns, appear to be proceeding as expeditiously as their nature, and the course of the Courts will admit, and that Mr. Corry appears disposed to hasten their termination as far as in him lies.

The Trustees, on the 5th of June 1806, for reasons detailed in their resolutions, which your Committee cannot consider as satisfactory, removed the suspension of Mr. Corry, and directed his salary to be paid him from the date and during the period of his suspension.

The Committee of Trustees, to whom the Minute of the Treasury of the 7th of October 1795, was referred, with a view of suggesting measures of regulation and controul as to the payment of money by the Treasurer of the Board, state in their report, that they do not see the least necessity for altering the system laid down in the resolutions of the Board of the 23d of February 1782, except that the accounts should be signed by a Board, specially summoned, and that every abstract of account under which the Treasurer should issue money, ought to be signed at a Board by no less than three Members.

The sanction given by his Report to the continuance of a system under which an opportunity had been afforded for embezzling money to so large an amount, and of keeping it so long concealed could have no tendency but that of perpetuating abuses, instead of correcting them.

Proceeding to the department of the Architect of this Board, your Committee find, that almost one-third part of the Revenues intrusted to the care of this Board, amounting, between January 1800 and 1810, to a sum of £62,864, has been expended in this branch; and of this sum, £4,727 in painting, plaistering, and repairing at the Linen-Hall, and the Officers' houses; and there appear further, in the 36th Report of the Commissioners of Imperial Accounts, other sums disbursed for furniture, carpens, chimney and pier glasses, &c. for the House of the Chamberlain of the Linen-Hall.

The issues from the Treasurer to the Architect, previous to October 1805, were made on orders signed by the Secretary; and since that time by three Trustees. On the 5th May 1807, it was stated to the Board by the Architect, that the works carrying on under his direction at the Linen-Hall, pursuant to the orders of the Board, and in conformity with the plans and estimates, were then finished; and a Committee was appointed to examine and report on the execution of the works, and application of sums voted for them; and it was ordered, "That no further sum of money shall be issued by the Treasurer to the Architect until the Committee shall have made their Report."

Up to the 8th of April 1810, no report appears to have been made by this Committee; and yet, in direct contradiction to this order, there were issued to the architect the following sums by the Treasurer, on the orders of the Trustees,

| | |
|-----------------------|-------|
| 4th August 1807 | £1000 |
| 17th November | 1000 |
| 21st October | 1500 |
| 31st December | 1000 |

Almost every report of the Commissioners of Imprest Accounts presented to Parliament during several years, has stated their observations on the Architect's department in no very favourable point of view, in respect of the almost entirely uncontrolled power which he was allowed to exercise in the expenditure of public money; but their 36th Report, lately presented, states that a Building Committee has been appointed, which, if it performs its duty, may prevent, according to the opinion of those Commissioners, in a great measure, those evils. The latitude of the expenditure hitherto allowed may be judged of from this circumstance: "that the Architect having orders from the Board to keep the buildings in repair, he has uniformly direct-

ed his carpenters and other artificers to obey all orders of the Inspector-General, Secretary, or other Chief Officers, as to their houses, &c." which is fully illustrated by the following passage, in a Report on the Architect's accounts, "that he received no order from the Secretary for the expenditure of £8408, 14s. 3½d. but that he received orders at different times from several individual Trustees for executing works, but that only verbally sometimes at the Board, and sometimes elsewhere; but does not recollect the period of time."

The principal management of this great establishment is vested in the Inspector-General, the first Officer under the Trustees, the duties of whose office are very fully stated in the 36th Report; his neglect of those duties is strongly observed upon in the same report, and particularly the concealment from the Trustees of facts, which it was his duty to have communicated to them. One striking instance of this kind, in the case of Sir Thomas Fitzgerald's and Shanahan's manufactory, is fully detailed in that report, the fraudulent circumstances attending which may deserve, in other points of view, the notice of the House.

The same report contains animadversions on the negligent mode of superintendence, and upon the general want of attention to the expenditure of money granted by Parliament for the distribution of hemp seed.

It is to be observed that the cost of hemp-seed having amounted to £1464, the cost of advertising it in the different newspapers has been £652.

The office of Inspector-General was constituted under the 21st and 23d Geo. III. c. 34.; and it is specially directed, "that the person so appointed must have been bred to or carried on some branch of the linen manufacture on his own account, by bleaching, selling, dyeing, stamping, or staining." By 31 Geo. III. c. 14. the Trustees are enabled to appoint two persons jointly to execute this office, and that of the Secretary or Chamberlain, subject to like penalties and regulations as before, but without additional salary.

NOTHING TO DO GENTLEMEN.

Continued from page 314, No. 27.

It has been executed wholly by deputy during your Lordship's holding it? Yes.

What are the duties of the Crown Office as executed by your Lordship in person? I have never executed any of the duties of that office.

Your Lordship also holds, jointly with Lord Henry Seymour, the office of Filacer in the King's Bench? I do.

What is the duty of the office of filacer? To file and record the proceedings of the court, which has never been executed by me in person.

What has your Lordship received from these offices for the last three years? In the year 1807—8, we received in England, clear of all deductions, 8,196l. 15s. 8d. in the year 808—9, 9,161l. 17s. 4d. in the year 809—10, 9,377l. 11s. 4d. sterling.
Henry Luttrell, esq. called in and examined.

You are Clerk of the Pipe in Ireland? am.

What are the duties of that office as performed by yourself? None.

How many years have you held that office? Ten years.

Have you ever been called upon to execute the duties in person? Never.
The Right Hon. Earl of Rosslyn called in and examined.

Your Lordship holds the office of Director of Chancery in Scotland? I do.

What are the duties performed by your Lordship in person? None.

Has your Lordship a Deputy? Yes.
The Rt. Hon. Lord Arden called in and examined.

Your Lordship is Register of the High Court of Appeal for Prizes in the High Court of Admiralty, and of the High Court of Delegates? I am.

What is the nature of the duties of the office of Register of the High Court of Admiralty, which your Lordship executes in person? My office is a freehold office for life, and therefore before I answer any question, I beg to know whether the Committee can give me any assurance that the existing interest of that office is not in any respect whatever within the purview of these resolutions.

[The Committee read to his Lordship the printed resolutions on which the Committee was founded.] I hope the Committee will not attribute it to my want of respect to them or to the Honourable House of which they form a part, if I decline answering any question, conceiving that I ought not to be called upon to furnish from my own mouth any matter of information which may be made use of to the pre-

judice of my freehold rights. My deputies Messrs. Jenner and Wheeler, can, however, explain every thing to the Committee relating to my office.

John King, esq. called in and examined.

What office do you hold in the Plantations? Naval Officer of Jamaica.

What is the nature of the duties of that office as executed by you in person? I execute no duties in person.

What are the emoluments that you receive from that office? I receive 1500l. a year, which is paid to me by the person who executes the duties of the office, who acts under the appointment of the Governor, being first recommended by me.

What is the extent of his emoluments? The average receipt, I should suppose, may be taken at 2,500l. out of which I receive 1500l. a year.

William Mitchell, esq. called in and examined.

You are deputy to Mr. Germain, who holds the office of receiver general of Jamaica? I am his lessee.

What are the duties of the receiver general? The duties of the receiver general consist in the collection of the revenue, and in the collection of all the taxes under the revenue laws of this country.

In what manner does Mr. Germain execute his office? He executes it through me entirely.

What sum does Mr. Germain receive from this office? He receives a clear net rent from me of 2000l. sterling, paid in England, free of every expense whatever.

The Right Hon. Charles Vereker, a Member of the House, examined.

You are constable of the castle of Limerick? I am.

What are the duties of that office performed by yourself? I perform no duties.

Are there any duties belonging to the office? I have understood that in former times the constable of the castle commanded the town in the absence of the governor, but of late years there has been no duty done by the constable.

You have no deputy? No.

What are the emoluments you receive from the office? There is some ground that belongs to the constable, which was set by my predecessor at

400*l.* a year, and the salary is 1*l.* per day.

Are the lands of which you speak out on lease? Yes, there is a lease for 99 years; there was a king's letter enabling my predecessors to set a lease for that term; before that they had usually been let by each constable during his incumbency, at a small rent.

The Right Hon. Charles Long, a member of the Committee, examined.

You are one of the joint paymasters general? I am.

Do you execute the duties of that office in person? I do.

Lord Charles Somerset is the other paymaster? He is.

What duties does he discharge?—He discharges some of the duties, but not to any considerable extent; he frequently attends the boards that are held at Chelsea, and I communicate with him upon any subject of importance that arises.

Might not the office of paymaster general be as conveniently executed by one person? I conceive it might.

Has Lord Charles Somerset a deputy? Yes, he has.

The most honourable the Marquis Wellesley (baron Wellesley) called in and examined.

Your lordship holds the office of chief remembrancer in the court of exchequer in Ireland? I do.

What are the duties of that office which your lordship performs in person? None.

Your lordship appoints a deputy? I do.

The right honourable Sir Evan Nepean, bart. a member of the house, examined.

You are clerk of the crown and courts in the Island of Jamaica? I am.

What is the nature of the duties of that office executed by yourself in person? None.

Are you liable to execute any duties? I am liable to be called upon at any time, to execute the duties in person.

By whom? by the governor and council.

How long have you held this office? The office was given to me in reversion, I think in the year 1789; I have been in possession since the year 1792.

During that time have you ever been called upon to execute any duties in person? I have not.

The honourable Thomas Knox, a member of the House, examined.

You hold, together with the honourable Vesey Knox, the office of Prothonotary of the court of common pleas in Ireland? I do.

What is the detail of the duties performed by yourselves? We appoint a deputy, as we are enabled to do under the patent.

Mr. Knox delivered in the following account of the emoluments of the office:

| | 1. Totl. Charges. | De's 6th. thonotary. | Chief Pro. |
|------------|-------------------|----------------------|------------|
| 1808, Cash | 6,382 | 13446 1386 | 9007 10035 |
| Credits | 7,034 | | |
| 1809, Cash | 6,103 | 13389 1386 | 9001 10005 |
| Credits | 7,316 | | |

Have you ever been called upon to execute any part of the duties in person? Never.

Do any cases arise, on which reference is made to you? No, never.

Has the deputy power to sign your name? Yes.

Has the deputy his salary by private agreement with you? Yes.

Robert Jenner, esq. called in and Examined.

You are deputy to Lord Arden, as register to the high court of appeals, the high court of admiralty and the court of Delegates? I am.

Does Lord Arden execute any part of the duties of register of the high court of appeals? Never.

Does he ever execute any part of the duties of register of the court of Delegates? Never; his lordship has not executed any one of those offices, or any part of them, since he was appointed.

There is generally a sum of money lying in his hands? Yes, there has been generally in the registry; he takes such part as he thinks proper, and I believe at this time that what his lordship has, is 207,000*l.*

Does Lord Arden give any security? No.

Do you give any security to Lord Arden? Yes, 20,000*l.* each.

Are you aware of any inconvenience that would arise if the office of register of the high court of admiralty were abolished, and the whole ex-

cuted. by deputy? No, I am aware of none at all, and the same answer must apply to the register of the high court of appeals; the register of the court of Delegates is a very trifling thing; I do not suppose his lordship has ever received 200l. from it.

Do these three offices always go together? They have always been in the same patent ever since I have known them.

Has Lord Arden any salary? No, he has not, the whole arises from fees.

Thomas Carter, esq. called in and examined.

You hold the office of Provost Marshal of Barbadoes? I do.

In what manner do you execute that office? Wholly by deputy.

Have you leave of absence? Yes, I have.

Did you go out to take possession? No, I did not.

The Honourable Percy Wyndham, called in, and examined.

You are register of chancery in the island of Jamaica, and secretary and clerk of the courts in Barbadoes? Yes, and also prothonotary of the court of common pleas, in Barbadoes.

Do you execute any part of the duties of those offices in person? I do not.

What are the emoluments which you derive from those offices? From the office of register of chancery 1,050l. from the office of Secretary of Barbadoes 700l. and from the office of Prothonotary of the Court of Common Pleas, on the average of six years, 16l. 13s. 4d. making together, 1,766l. 13s. 4d.

The Hon. Chas. Wyndham, a member of the house, examined.

You hold the office of secretary and clerk of the inrolments of Jamaica? I do.

Do you execute any of the duties in person? No, by deputy, and always have done.

What is the net receipt coming to you from that office? 2500l. a year; I was under agreement to receive so much from the person filling the duties of it, which became vacant about seventeen years ago, and then I received a bonus to continue it at the same

rate; to the best of my recollection it was 6 or 7000l. sterl. I received.

The Rt. Hon. Wm. Bagwell, a member of the house, examined.

You are one of the joint muster-masters of Ireland? I am.

Do you execute any part of that office in person? None whatever in person.

Are there any duties to be executed? Yes there are—it is a purely military office.

Charles Grenville, esq. called in and examined.

You are secretary to the island of Tobago? I am.

Is any part of the duties of that office performed by yourself in person?—No.

It is entirely performed by deputy? Yes.

Do you appoint the deputy yourself? Yes, subject to the approbation of the Governor.

What is the receipt you have from the office? 400l. net.

You are the naval officer of Demerara? I am.

What do you receive from that? It is uncertain; I ought to receive 500l. a year, but I receive about 250l. the deputy sends me two thirds.

What is the nature of the office of naval officer? I believe the fees arise from keeping a register of ships which come in and clear out.

Thomas Lowten, esq. called in and examined.

You execute the office of deputy to the clerk of the pipe? I do.

Does lord William Bentinck perform any part of the duties in person? No.

What is the salary that as deputy you receive? One hundred pounds a year.

And no other fees of any sort?—No other fees of any sort.

The emoluments of Lord William Bentinck are stated to amount net to 633l. is that correct? I should rather suppose that for the years 1806 1807, and 1808, the profits were as much as seven hundred and thirty, or seven hundred and forty pounds but the last year has not been quite so much; but I take the average to be about seven hundred and forty

pounds, mine is a fixed salary of 100l. a year.

The labour of course is very small? It is very great; I undertook that office more out of regard to the late duke of Portland, than any view to emolument.

John Dax, esq. called in, and examined.

You are deputy to the Clerk of the exchequer of pleas? I am.

What duties does Mr. William S. Rose, perform in person, as clerk of the exchequer of pleas? None.

At no time? No.

Nor of any kind! No.

You execute the whole of the office? I do.

The right honourable Thomas Steele, called in and examined.

You are King's Remembrancer in the court of exchequer? I am.

Are the duties executed by yourself? No, by clerks.

You have no deputy? Yes I have; Mr. Moysey is my deputy.

How is the office executed? The duties of the office are executed by deputy.

Are you aware of any inconvenience that would result to the public from the office of King's remembrancer being abolished? Certainly, I cannot say that I am.

If the office of register were abolished, do you apprehend any inconvenience would result to the public? Certainly not; any office that is done by deputy may be abolished.

Mr. Thos. Farrer, called in, and examined.

You are deputy comptroller of the Pipe? Yes.

Are the duties executed by Mr. Tekell in person? No, he does no duties in person as comptroller of the pipe.

It is done wholly by deputy? By myself and my clerk.

Mr. John Tekell, called in, and examined.

Are you deputy in the office of the chirographer in the court of exchequer? I am.

That is an office held by patent? Yes.

From whom is the patent? From the king.

You execute the duties of that office? I am secondary or deputy in the office.

The patentees perform no part of the duties in person? None.

What is the emolument derived by Sir Henry and Mr. Colebrook? I should apprehend about 400l. a year between them.

Mr. Jas. Sayers, called in, and examined.

You are marshal of the exchequer? I am.

Do you execute the duties of that office in person? No, entirely by deputy.

You have no duties whatever to perform but what are discharged by deputy? I perform no duties. If I had to take a person into custody for a very large sum of money, I might choose, to prevent accident, to do it myself.

But you might do it by deputy?—Yes.

How many years have you been in the office? Ever since the year 1784.

During that time have you ever performed any duties in person? I have not, except attending once, and walking before Mr. Pitt, as chancellor of the exchequer.

We have at length come to one great efficient officer. Here is a gentleman who at least does something for his money. He once walked in a procession before Mr. Pitt. Never to be sure was there exhibited a more shining example of a splendid government. We might search all Europe in vain for such munificence. We recollect, indeed, as far as the tale-telling Schekerezade is good authority, an *Asiatic* example of similar liberality in the case of "Ganem, the son Abou Aibou, or the slave of Love," who, on his first introduction at the levee to Haroun Al Raschid, *i.e.* Haroun the just or the pious; and after receiving a rich robe, according to the custom always observed to those to whom audience was given, is thus briefly addressed by that conscientious Caliph, "Ganem, I much wish you to remain at my court." "Commander of the faithful," replied the young merchant, "the slave has no other will than that of his master, on whom his life and fortune depend." The Caliph was well pleased with Ganem's answer, and gave him a large pension. After this the Prince descended from his throne.

Extracts from the Report of the Secretary of the Treasury, on the subject of American Manufactures, made April 17, 1810, in obedience to a Resolution of the House of Representatives.

Domestic Manufactures.

The following manufactures are carried on to an extent, which may be considered adequate to the consumption of the United States; the foreign articles annually imported, being less in value than those of American Manufactures belonging to the same general class, which are annually exported, viz.

Manufactures of wood, or of which wood is the principal material.—Leather and manufactures of leather.—Soap and tallow candles.—Spermaceti oil and candles.—Flax-seed oil.—Refined sugar.—Coarse earthen-ware.—Snuff, chocolate, air-powder and mustard.

The following branches are firmly established, supplying, in many instances be greater, and in all a considerable part of the consumption of the United States, viz.

Iron and manufactures of iron.—Manufactures of cotton, wool, and flax.—Hats.—Paper, printing types, printed books, playing-cards.—Spirituuous and salt liquors.—Several manufactures of hemp.—Gun-powder.—Window glass.—Jewellery and clocks.—Several manufacturers of lead.—Straw bonnets and hats.—Wax candles.

Progress has also been made in the following branches, viz.

Paints and colours; several chemical preparations, and medical drugs; salt; manufactures of copper and brass; japanned and plated ware; calico printing; green's and other earthen and glass ware, &c.

Many articles, respecting which no information has been received, are undoubtedly omitted: and the substance of the information obtained on the most important branches, is comprehended under the following heads:

Wood and Manufactures of Wood.—All the branches of this manufacture are carried to a high degree of perfection, supply the whole demand of the United States, and consist principally of cabinet ware, and other household furniture, coaches and carriages, either for pleasure or transportation, and ship-build ng.

The ships and vessels above twenty tons burthen, built in the United States during the years 1801 to 1807, measured 774,922 tons, making on an average about 110,000 tons a year, and worth more than six millions of dollars. About two-thirds were registered for the foreign trade, and the remainder licensed for the coasting trade and fisheries.

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Of the other branches, no particular account can be given. But the annual exportations of furniture and carriages amount to 170,000 dollars. The value of the whole, including ship-building, cannot be less than twenty millions of dollars a year.

Under this head may also be mentioned pot and pearl-ash, of which, besides supplying the internal demand, 7,400 tons are annually exported.

Leather and Manufactures of Leather.—

Tanneries are established in every part of the United States, some of them on a very large scale; the capital employed in a single establishment amounting to one hundred thousand dollars. A few hides are exported, and it is stated that one-third of those used in the great tanneries of the Atlantic states, are imported from Spanish America. Some superior or particular kinds of English leather, and of morocco, are still imported; but about 350,000lbs.* of American leather are annually exported. The bark is abundant and cheap; and it appears that hides cost in America 5½ cents, and in England seven cents a pound; that the bark used for tanning, costs in England, nearly as much as the hides, and in America not one-tenth part of that sum.

It is at the same time acknowledged that much American leather is brought to market of an inferior quality, and that better is generally made in the middle than in the northern and southern states. The tanneries of the state of Delaware employ collectively a capital of one hundred and twenty thousand dollars, and ninety workmen, and make annually 100,000 dollars-worth of leather. Those of Baltimore amount to twenty-two, seventeen of which have together a capital of 187,000 dollars, and tan annually 19,000 hides, and 25,000 calf-skins.

Morocco is also made in several places, partly from imported goat skins, but principally from sheep skins. And it may be proper here to add, that deer skins, which form an article of exportation, are dressed and manufactured in the United States to the amount required for the consumption of the country.

The principal manufactures of leather are those of shoes and boots, harness, and saddles. Some inconsiderable quantities of the two last articles are both imported and exported. The annual importation of foreign boots and shoes, amounts to 3,250 pair of boots, and 59,000 pair of shoes, principally kid and morocco. The annual exportation of the same articles of American manufacture, to 8,500 pair

* Unless otherwise stated, the importations and exportations are, in this report, taken on the average of the years 1806 and 1807.

of boots and 127,000 pair of shoes. The shoe manufactures of New Jersey are extensive. That of Lynn, in Massachusetts, makes 100,000 pair of women's shoes annually.

The value of all the articles annually manufactured in the United States, which are embraced under this head (leather), may be estimated at twenty millions of dollars.

Soap and Tallow Candles.—A great portion of the soap and candles used in the United States, is a family manufacture. But there are also several establishments on an extensive scale in all the large cities, and several other places. Those of the village of Roxbury, near Boston, employ alone a capital of one hundred thousand dollars, and make annually 376,000 pounds candles, 380,000 pounds brown soap, and 50,000 pounds Windsor and fancy soap, with a profit, it is said, of 15 per centum on the capital employed.

The annual importations of foreign manufacture are, candles 158,000 pounds, soap, 470,000 pounds.

The annual exportations of domestic manufacture, are candles 1,775,000 pounds, soap 2,920,000 lbs.

The annual value manufactured in the United States, and including the quantity made in private families for their own use, cannot be estimated at less than eight millions of dollars.

Spermæti Oil and Candles.—The establishments for this manufacture are at Nantucket and New Bedford in Massachusetts, and at Hudson in New York. Besides supplying the whole of the domestic consumption, they furnish annually, for exportation to foreign countries, 230,000 pounds of candles, and 44,000 gallons of oil. The whole quantity annually manufactured amounted to about 300,000 dollars; but the exclusion from foreign markets has lately affected the manufacture.

Refined Sugar.—The annual importations of foreign refined sugar, amount, for the years 1803 to 1807, to 47,000 lbs.

The annual exportation of American refined sugar, amount, for the same years, to 150,000 lbs.

The then existing duty was, in the year 1801, collected on 3,827,000 pounds; and as the manufacture has kept pace with the increase of population, the quantity now annually made may be estimated at five millions of pounds, worth one million of dollars. The capital employed is stated at three millions and a half of dollars; and, as the establishments have increased in number, some of them have declined in business. It is believed that if a drawback, equivalent to the duty paid on the importation of the brown sugar used in the refined sugar exported, was again allowed, the foreign demand,

particularly of Russia, would give a great extension to this branch. A special report has been made on that subject to the committee of commerce and manufacturers.

COTTON WOOL, AND FLAX.

1. Spinning Mills, and Manufacturing Establishments.—The first cotton mill was erected in the state of Rhode Island, in the year 1791; another in the same state in the year 1795; and two more in the state of Massachusetts, in the years 1801 and 1804. During the three succeeding years ten more were erected or commenced in Rhode Island; and one in Connecticut; making altogether fifteen mills erected before the year 1808, working at that time about eight thousand spindles and producing about three hundred thousand pounds of yarn a year.

Returns have been received of eighty-seven mills which were erected at the end of the year 1809; sixty-two of which (4 water and 14 horse mills,) were in operation, and worked at that time thirty-one thousand spindles. The other twenty-five will all be in operation in the course of this year, and together with the former ones (almost all of which are increasing their machinery,) will, by the estimate received, work more than eighty thousand spindles at the commencement of the year 1811.

The capital required to carry on the manufacture on the best terms, is estimated at the rate of one hundred dollars for each spindle; including both the first capital applied to the purchase of the mill-seats, and to the construction of the mills and machinery, and that employed in wages, repairs, raw materials, goods on hand, and contingencies. But it is believed that no more than at the rate of sixty dollars for each spindle is generally actually employed. Forty-five pounds of cotton worth about twenty cents a pound, are on an average annually spun for each spindle, and these produce about thirty-six pounds of yarn of different quantities, worth on an average one dollar and 12½ cents a pound. Eight hundred spindles employ forty persons, viz. five men, and thirty-five women and children. On those data, the general results for the year 1811, are estimated in the following table:

The increase of carding and spinning of cotton by machinery; in establishments for that purpose, and exclusively of that done in private families has therefore been four fold during the two last years, and will have been tenfold in three years. The greater number is in the vicinity of Providence, in Rhode Island; they are scattered and extending throughout all the states.

| Mills | Spindles | Capital employed | Cotton used. | | Yarn spun. | | Persons employed. | | |
|-------|----------|------------------|--------------|---------|------------|-----------|-------------------|---------------------|-------|
| No. | No. | Dollars. | Pounds. | Value | Pounds. | Value. | Men | Women and Children. | Total |
| 87 | 80,000 | 4,800,000 | 3,600,000 | 720,000 | 1,880,000 | 3,140,000 | 500 | 31500 | 4,060 |

The seventeen mills in the state of Rhode Island, worked 14,290 spindles in a year 1809; are also stated to have used during that year 640,000 pounds of cotton, which produced 510,000 pounds of yarn; of which, 124,080 pounds were sold for thread and knitting, 200,000 pounds were used in manufactures attached to, or in the vicinity of the mills; and the residue was either sold for wick, and for the use of family manufactures, or exported to other parts. Eleven hundred looms are said to be employed in weaving the yarn spun by those mills in goods, principally of the following descriptions, viz:

Knitting, sold at 55 to 90 cents per yard.
 Ties and checks 30 to 42 do. do.
 Shirts 40 to 50 do. do.
 Kites for shirts 35 to 75 do. do.
 Underpanes at 8 dollars each do. do.

Those several goods are already equal in appearance to the English imported articles of the same description, and superior in durability; and the finishing is still improving. The proportion of fine yarn is also increasing.

The same articles are manufactured in several other places, and particularly at Philadelphia, where are also made from a same material, webbing and coach seats, (which articles have also excluded, will soon exclude, similar foreign imitations) table and other diaper cloth, hats, vest patterns, cotton kerseymeres, and blankets. The manufacture of fustians, cords, and velvets, has also been commenced in the interior and western parts of Pennsylvania, and in Kentucky.

Some of the mills above-mentioned, are also employed in carding and spinning wool, though not to a considerable amount. But almost the whole of that material is spun and wove in private families; and there are yet but few establishments for the manufacture of woollen cloth. Some information has, however, been received respecting fourteen of these, manufacturing each, on an average, ten thousand yards of cloth a year, worth from one to ten dollars a yard. It is believed, that there are others from which no information has been obtained; and it is known that several establishments on a smaller scale, exist in Phila-

delphia, Baltimore, and some other places. All those cloths, as well as those manufactured in private families, are generally superior in quality, though somewhat inferior in appearance to imported cloths for the same price. The principal obstacle to the extension of the manufacture, is the want of wool, which is still deficient both in quality and quantity. But those defects are daily and rapidly lessened by the introduction of sheep of the Merino, and other superior breeds, by the great demand for the article, and by the attention now every where paid by farmers to the increase and improvements of their flocks.*

Manufacturing establishments for spinning and weaving flax, are yet but few. In the state of New York, there is one which employs a capital of 18,000 dollars, and twenty six persons, and in which about ninety thousand pounds of flax are annually spun and woven into canvas, and other coarse linen. Information has been received respecting two in the vicinity of Philadelphia, one of which produces annually 72,000 yards of canvas made of flax and cotton; in the other, the flax is both hackled and spun by machinery; thirty looms are employed, and it is said, that 500,000 yards of cotton bagging, sail cloth, and coarse linen may be made annually.

Hosiery may also be considered as almost exclusively household manufacture. That of Germantown has declined, and it does not appear to have been attempted on a large scale in other places. There are, however, some exceptions; and it is stated that the island of Martha's Vineyard exports annually nine thousand pair of stockings.

*The bank of England, by discounting accommodation bills for woollendrapers, lately contrived to ruin the woollen manufacturers of England, and it may be years before they recover the blow. The increased amounts of that bank, granted to monopolists, bankers, and speculators only, will, in due time, destroy every branch of trade and manufactures of Great Britain, if not checked by parliament.

II. *Household Manufactures.*—But by far the greater part of the goods made of those materials (cotton, flax, and wool) are manufactured in private families, mostly for their own use and partly for sale. They consist principally of coarse cotton, flannel, cotton stuffs, and stripes, of every description, linen, and mixtures of wool with flax or cotton. The information received from every state, and from more than sixty different places, concurs in establishing the fact of an extraordinary increase during the two last years, and rendering it probable that about two thirds of the clothing, including hosiery, and of the house and table linen worn and used by the inhabitants of the United States, who do not reside in cities, is the product of family manufactures.

In the eastern and middle states, carding machines, worked by water, are every where established, and they are rapidly extending southwardly and westwardly. Jennies, other family spinning machines, and flying shuttles are also introduced in many places; and as many fulling mills are erected, as are required for finishing all the cloth which is woven in private families.

Difficult as it is to form an estimate, it is inferred from a comparison of all the facts which have been communicated, with the population of the United States (estimated at six millions of white,

and twelve hundred thousand black persons) that the value of all the goods made of cotton, wool, and flax, which are annually manufactured in the United States, exceeds forty millions of dollars.

The manufacture of cards and wire, so intimately connected with this part of the subject, Whitmore's machine for making cards, has completely excluded foreign importations of that article. The capital employed in that branch may be estimated at 200,000 dollars; and that the annual consumption amounted lately, to twenty thousand dozen pair of hand cards, and twenty thousand square feet of cards for machines, worth together about 200,000 dollars. The demand of last year was double that of 1806, and is still rapidly increasing. But the wire is altogether imported and a very serious inconvenience might arise from any regulation which would check or prevent the exportation from foreign countries. It appears, however, by the communication, that the manufacture may, and would be immediately established, so as to supply the demand both for cards and other objects, provided the same duty were imposed on wire, now imported duty free, which is laid on other articles made of the same material. The whole amount of wire annually used for cards, does not at present exceed twenty five tons, worth about 40,000 dollars.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

THE bankruptcies are not yet at an end. Some of great magnitude have lately occurred at Liverpool. Every month gives fresh proof that the war is the originating cause of these failures. Let us examine their causes thro' whatever ramifications we may, they are all directly or more remotely, to be traced to this mighty source of all our calamities,—the war. Liverpool stood pre-eminently high in the rage for speculation, and it is now conspicuously reaping the bitter fruits hence resulting. The orders of council, one branch of the pernicious war system, for a time almost annihilated the trade with America. The capitals, thus forced out of the natural channel, were directed into speculation. Circumstances arising out of the war, and from a negotiation with America, conducted in a vacillating imbecile manner, have latterly, mostly turned speculations, both in imports and exports, into heavy losses. Paper credit, for a season, afforded fallacious encouragement, the rage for speculation induced men to adventure beyond all due proportion to their capital, and, in case of disappointment in their remittances, or any check to that system of paper accommodation, on which they depended, they became incapable of fulfilling their engagements. In the end, ruin became extensive, and the miserable effects arising from these causes are strongly impressed, in lasting characters of private and public distress.

At page 391 will be found an extract from a report on American manufactures, presented to the house of representatives. In our relations with that country, it presents to us important information as to the progress of domestic manufactures. It is becoming a manufacturing nation much sooner than many among us are willing to allow; or, than is modish in the present system of self-deceptive flattery to admit, and the general tenor of British policy towards America, as evinced by the orders in

council, and other acts, has hastened forward the maturity of American manufactures, much more speedily than would probably have occurred in the natural course of things, and unintentionally nursed their infant manufactures. The narrow-minded politician may regret that good has been done, contrary to his desires and intentions, thro' the means of his illiberal policy; while the citizen of the world rejoices in the prosperity of his fellow men, whether they dwell on this or the other side of the Atlantic.

The linen trade continues to present a strange anomaly: dull sales, of white goods, and brisk buying in the brown markets. As yet the quantity brought to market is small, for the season of digging potatoes, which occupies so many of our weavers, is not quite finished; but from present appearances, it is probable, that, as linen becomes more plentiful, buyers will not be wanting, for there is no scarcity of money to lay out, and the market in London continues unusually dull, yet other channels have opened, and sales have been effected elsewhere, as is evinced by the numbers of buyers, ready to come out, as soon as linens shall be in sufficient abundance. The fact is, that London, which formerly was the general emporium for the sale of linens, is rapidly losing this pre-eminence, and channels of more direct intercourse are gradually opening. The overbearing confidence of the Londoners will ill brook this change, for they thought themselves of so great consequence, that they arrogated the power of regulating the trade according to their whims. The factors also by their leaning almost invariably more to the side of their city customers, than to their consigners in this country; appear now to have materially injured their own interests, and to have considerably contributed to the diversion of the trade into other channels.

The flax crop has not turned out as well as was expected. Purchases of flax are now making on commission for England and Scotland, and the price is advancing. The linens sent to America last summer, are stated to have sold well, and it is hoped, some demand may be expected from that market in spring, to make up for the deficiency of sales in London.

The persons engaged in the linen trade in the neighbourhood of Aberdeen, have lately petitioned the board of trade in London, to procure a duty to be laid on the importation of foreign yarn, to aid the spinning trade, particularly the manufacturers for spinning linen yarn by machinery, and also for an additional duty on the importation of foreign linen. They have by letters solicited the co-operation of the linen trade in this country. At a meeting of linen drapers at Belfast, it was resolved not to move in relation to foreign yarn, as none of that article was imported into this country, and its importation into Britain would rather serve us by lessening the demand for yarn from this country, and consequently tending to cheapen our manufactures. It was resolved to join in aid to the measures for promoting an additional duty on foreign linens. Some entertain doubts as to the utility of containing a system of prohibitions, duties, drawbacks and bounties, and are inclined to leave trade to find its own level unrestrained by restrictions. But the public mind is not yet ripe for such a departure from ancient practice.

In the mean time Bonaparte by what he calls his continental system is seeking, and it appears with success, to exclude British manufactures from the continent of Europe, and he has lately adopted the furious measure of ordering them to be burned in France and his tributary kingdoms. These acts of violence, which arise from the abuse of great power, and are always perpetrated by conquerors, will not fail to injure the commercial interests of this country. These measures are indefensible on the grounds of justice, and the laws of honesty, which ought to prevail among nations: but alas! the maxims of justice are always disregarded by those, who have it in their power; and violence and the law of the strongest afford the only measure of the conduct of nations towards each other. We outrageously censure the measures of France; but are we entitled from the purity of our conduct to lay blame to others? One power exerts its authority by land, and the sea may be considered as the scene of the rapacity of the other. It is the very nature of war to present us as in a broken mirror with images distorted and refracted: we think ourselves duly proportioned, but our enemies appear as disgustingly hideous: During a course of eighteen years of a most irritating and envenomed hostility, in which we have abused the French under all the changes of their government in the most outrageous, and the grossest terms, can we wonder at their retaliating on us, where they have the

power? Yet we still continue our abuse of them, and overlook our own provocations.

An able pamphlet on the depreciation of our currency, has been lately published by Wm. Huskinson, M. P. We may recollect that he was, about a year ago, an efficient member of administration. He also appears to have been very active as one of the Bullion Committee. He with much ability, proves THAT OUR PAPER CURRENCY IS REALLY DEPRECIATED, and exhibits a curious specimen of our disjointed state, as from a combination of circumstances, a light guinea which may be sold as bullion, is of greater value than a heavy guinea,* provided the plan succeeds to make it illegal to sell guineas at more than the value allowed to them by proclamation. This question, as far as it regards De Yonge and another /case of a similar nature, is shortly to be argued before the Twelve Judges on the point of law saved, whether a statute which forbade gold being exchanged into other coin for more than its value, will apply to its exchange into bank paper, a thing unknown for some centuries after the enactment of the statute. The effect of depreciation is clearly proved every day on the Change of Belfast, where guineas are now better by 2 to 3½ per cent than bank notes, and the same fact will be apparent in every place where a fair competition is allowed in an open market. A prohibitory law may disguise the fact, but cannot alter the respective natures of the two modes of our circulating medium.

In most articles the sales are very flat. Speculators have not now the unbounded scope for their avidity, which hurried them on so rapidly about two years ago, and trade is now narrowed more within its proper banks, after the inundation has subsided. In Liverpool, owing to the want of confidence, it is stated that sugars fell, because the West India merchants refused to sell, except for ready money. Perhaps at no period, was mercantile confidence lower than at the present crisis, and it is feared that the distresses of the times are not yet at an end, nor can it yet be ascertained how many may be affected by the bankruptcies which have already occurred, or how many similar catastrophes may result from the previous crashes. Some of the recent failures at Liverpool it is stated, have been attended with circumstances of peculiar atrocity, and in other places have also exhibited many instances of glaring impropriety, and indefensible conduct. The course of exchange through this month has been,

Belfast on London, 9 — 8½ — 8½ — 9 per cent.
 Belfast on Glasgow, 7½ — 7½
 Belfast on Dublin, 61s. 1
 Dublin on London, 9
 Discount on bank notes, ... 3½ 3½ — 2

NATURALIST'S REPORT,

From October 20, till November 20.

See Winter comes, to rule the varied year,

Sullen and sad, with all his rising train ;

Vapours, and clouds, and storms. THOMSON.

THE preceding season has presented some peculiarities ; owing to the cold and drought, the trees were slow in making their shoots, but when the warmth at last came, an irregular blow of the flowers took place, and the usual series of succession seemed interrupted by a mixture of early and later flowers appearing intermixed, the warmth of July, August, and September, with the great moisture encouraged to vigorous vegetation, most plants, especially those from northern latitudes, the trees now showed by the abundance and size of their leaves, their healthy state, yet they do not seem to have overcome the vernal delay, their shoots not being so long as usual ; some autumnal flowers, as the autumnal crocus or saffron, have not appeared, and the frosty nights of November the 7 and 8 nip the extreme shoots of some plants not usually affected by the frost, as the Evergreen Oak (*Quercus ilex*.) Gold Plant (*Aucuba Japonica*.) Common Laurel (*Prunus Lauro Cerasus*.) and Brush Mentha (*Erica Scoparia*.)

The months of November and December, of all the twelve, are the least fertile, in objects within the range of common observers of nature, Fungi, Lichens, and Mosses now only flourish, and to "those who do not look at nature's watches as well as her clocks," there is little entertainment afforded by these minute objects.

* See Morning Chronicle of the 14th November, 3d page, 1st column.

October 26, Wood-cock (*Scolopax Rusticola*) arrived. Old sportsmen remark, that if the moon-light of October is calm, the Wood-cocks will be plenty; they consider that to be the principal period of their migration, but it is also well known that they fly off when a country is covered with deep snows, and usually appear here in greater numbers after severe weather sets in, & in Scotland, than they did before, and it is also a well ascertained fact, that if they are unmolested in their haunts one season, they will be in greater numbers about the same place the next.

October 31 Field-fares or Pigeon Phelt (*Turdus Pilaris*) arrived.

November 19 Common Wren (*Motacilla Troglodytes*.) Wood-lark (*Alauda Arborea*.) singing, and a single Thrush (*Turdus Musicus*.) although this is a season at which the young cock Thrushes usually attempt to sing, I have heard only this solitary bird throughout this period.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT,

From October 20, till November 20.

Since our last report, considerable and rapid changes have taken place, unusually heavy rains have filled the earth with moisture, and deluged the vallies with incessant floods, and the range of the thermometer has resembled more that which often takes place in the southern states of North America, than what is usual in Ireland.

| | | |
|----------|---------------|--|
| October | 21, | Wet day. |
| | 22, 23, | Showery. |
| | 24, 26, | Dry fine days. |
| | 27, | Fine day, wet evening. |
| | 28, | Windy with showers. |
| | 29, | Fine day, wet night. |
| | 30, 31, | Showery. |
| November | 1, | Showers of hail and sleet. |
| | 2, 3, | Dry cold days. |
| | 4, | A trifling shower. |
| | 5, | Showers of hail, which whitened the mountain tops. |
| | 6, | Fine day. |
| | 7, 8, | Clear frosty days. |
| | 9, | Rain at night. |
| | 10, | Dry. |
| | 11, | Showery. |
| | 12, | Fine day. |
| | 13, | Light showers. |
| | 14, | Very wet and stormy. |
| | 15, | Fine day, wet evening. |
| | 16, 17, | Dark dry day, rain at night. |
| | 18, | Showery day, very wet night. |
| | 19, | Light Showers. |
| | 20, | Dry day. |

The Barometre on the 22d, of October was 28.7 on the 6th of November 28.9, the 16.28-8 and on the 2d of November 30.4 the rest of the time it was only 8 times as high as 30.

The thermometer on the 21st of October was as high as 50° on the 25th 52° on the 7th of November it was 29 and on the 8th it was 27.

The wind was observed S. W. 14 N. W. 3, N. E. 7, S. E. 4 times.

CELESTIAL PHENOMENA,

FOR DECEMBER, 1810.

The Moon passes our Meridian on the 1st, at 36 min. past 4.—The second of the water bearer being above her to the east, and the two first stars of the goat below her, at some distance from the Meridian to the West. At 6 she is 76 deg. 58 min. from the first of the Ram.

5th, She is on the Meridian about 8, the four stars in the square being now at a considerable distance from her to the West, and the three stars of the Ram and Menkar to the East of the Meridian; on this day she passes the Ecliptic but without producing an Eclipse; at 6 she is 56 deg. 6 min. from Aldebaran.

10th, The Moon is full at between 10 and 11 at night. She rises between Aldebaran and the sixth star of the Bull, or top of the Southern Horn, but nearest to the latter star; at 6 she is 43 deg. 25 min. from the first of the Ram.

15th, The Moon is followed soon after her rising, by the first of the Lion, and appears directing her course to the fifteenth, which suffers an occultation at 8 minutes past 3 on the ensuing morning, the star being then 1 min. North of the Moon's centre.

20th, She rises in the morning under the five stars, in triangle of the Virgin.

24th, She rises nearly at the same time, with the second of the Scorpion, and before sunrise we shall perceive Saturn to the East of her.

Mercury is in his superior conjunction on the 9th, and too near the Sun to be visible before that day, after it, he becomes of course an evening star: he will be but seldom seen this month.

Venus is an evening star, the greater part of this month approaching to her conjunction, which takes place on the 20th, of course the opportunities of seeing her, diminish every evening, and when she is a morning star at the end of the month, she is too near the Sun to be visible.

Mars is on our meridian at a quarter past 8 on the morning of the 1st, and at half past 7 on the morning of the 20th. The Moon passes him on the 21st.

Jupiter is on the Meridian on the 1st at 11 at night, and on the 19th at 34 min. past 9; his motion is retrograde through about 3 degrees, in the barren space between Menkar and the Pleiades, but much nearer to the latter star, and ending at a point to the east of the fourth of the Ram, and distant about 3 degrees from the star. The Moon passes him on the 9th.

Saturn is in conjunction with the Sun on the 10th, and of course is too near the Sun to be much seen during the greater part of the month. The Moon passes him on the 25th.

Herschell is a morning star, in the middle of the lower region, south of south-east, on the first at sun-rise, and his duration above the Horizon before sun-rise is daily increasing; his motion is direct through about 2 degrees. The Moon passes him on the 23d.

ECLIPSES OF JUPITER'S SATELLITES.

| 1st SATELLITE. | | | | 2d SATELLITE. | | | | 3d SATELLITE. | | | | Immersions. | | | |
|--------------------------|----|----|----|---------------|----|----|----|---------------|----|----|--------|-------------|----|----|----|
| Immersions. | | | | Immersions. | | | | | | | | | | | |
| DAYS | H. | M. | S. | DAYS | H. | M. | S. | DAYS | H. | M. | S. | DAYS | H. | M. | S. |
| 1 | 10 | 34 | 2 | 1 | 18 | 12 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 25 | 47 Im. | | | | |
| 3 | 5 | 2 | 44 | 5 | 7 | 30 | 52 | 4 | 3 | 34 | 49 E. | | | | |
| 4 | 23 | 31 | 29 | 8 | 20 | 49 | 38 | 11 | 5 | 26 | 12 Im. | | | | |
| 6 | 18 | 0 | 10 | 12 | 10 | 8 | 7 | 11 | 7 | 35 | 54 E. | | | | |
| 8 | 12 | 28 | 56 | 15 | 23 | 27 | 11 | 18 | 9 | 26 | 44 Im. | | | | |
| 10 | 6 | 57 | 40 | 19 | 12 | 45 | 40 | 18 | 11 | 37 | 5 E. | | | | |
| 12 | 1 | 26 | 26 | 23 | 2 | 4 | 40 | 25 | 13 | 27 | 27 Im. | | | | |
| 13 | 19 | 55 | 11 | 26 | 15 | 23 | 9 | 25 | 15 | 38 | 38 E. | | | | |
| 15 | 14 | 23 | 59 | 30 | 4 | 42 | 6 | | | | | | | | |
| 17 | 8 | 52 | 45 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Look to the right hand.* | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

* First Satellite Continued.

| | | | |
|----|----|----|----|
| 19 | 3 | 21 | 34 |
| 20 | 21 | 50 | 20 |
| 22 | 16 | 19 | 11 |
| 24 | 10 | 47 | 53 |
| 26 | 5 | 16 | 50 |
| 27 | 23 | 45 | 39 |
| 29 | 18 | 14 | 31 |
| 31 | 12 | 43 | 20 |

ERRATA in the first part of the *Servant*... P. 176, 2d col. line 27, for *as* they had time, read *ere* they had time, p. 179, col. 1, line 21, for *disturbed* in his rest, *say deprived* of.

ERRATA... p. 274, 1st col. 9th line; from bottom, for pound, read pounds, p. 275, 1 col. 5, 10 and 17 lines, for *coint*, read *quoin*, p. 306, 2 col. 7th line, for *attatched* and, read *and attached*, p. 236, 1st col. 43d line, for *selective*, read *selected*, p. 312, 1st col. 12th line, for *discharge*, read *discourage*.

THE BELFAST MONTHLY MAGAZINE.

No. 29.]

DECEMBER 31, 1810.

[Vol. 5.

COMMUNICATIONS ORIGINAL AND SELECTED.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

THE SYMBOLS OF PYTHAGORAS.

THE life and main opinions of Pythagoras are too well known to require a delineation of them. It is also known, that he condensed the essence of his doctrine into short sentences, which, like the inscription on the licentiate's tomb, as recorded by Le Sage, would seem mere common-place to the superficial observer, but to the initiated, or the reflecting, conveyed golden instruction.

This manner of facilitating the conveyance, as well as remembrance of maxims useful for the guidance of life, seems to have been very general among the sages of antiquity. The book of proverbs is, as its name imports, a collection of such maxims; and all the oriental writers on moral or religious subjects, are remarkable for the adoption of this proverbial form. The Greeks, then the Hebrews and the Persians, with their kindred nations, coincided in this condensed exhibition of practical wisdom, and this coincidence of nations little connected with each other, is a strong proof that the practice was the offspring of unsophisticated good sense. We, it is true, are much wiser than our ancestors, we therefore scout from our presence any thing which bears the semblance of a proverb; we think it unbecoming the refinement we boast of, to have any acquaintance with such homely wisdom; and, with due con-

tempt, we consign it to the vulgar. In this instance we act in a manner most opposite to the ancients; they dignified these convenient compendiums of wisdom; we stigmatize them: their philosophers exerted their talents in compressing the results of their experience into a portable compass: our men of wit consign them to ridicule by representing fools as the repositories of them, and our men of fashion vote them out of society, and the utterers of them as *bore*s. The merits of their different modes of proceeding may be determined by adverting to the characters of their respective patrons. In despite, however, of the formidable reprobation they have incurred, we may regret that such pains have been taken to discountenance such a convenient, stenographic method of laying up a store of wisdom. If it be useful to possess any general principles for the guidance of our conduct through life, and who will deny it? that utility must be heightened by giving a facility to the storing of them, and bringing them forth when occasion required. Such seems to have been the opinion of those who were esteemed wise among the ancients, and though some modern sneerer should be inclined to rank the advocate of such a practice with Sancho Panca, and the interlocutors in Dean Swift's *polite conversation*, he may stand forth and plead the example of many, at least as wise as his objectors.

The illustrious Pythagoras, ac-

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quainted with all the learning of his time, and supposed the inventor of that system, the revival of which conferred such honour on Copernicus, did not think it beneath his dignity to compress his precepts thus for his disciples. These *symbols*, as they were termed, he seems to have formed on the model of the Egyptian hieroglyphic, with the difference of depicting with words, what they depicted with figures. Many of them remain to this day, affording a tempting nut for expositors to crack. I shall select a few for the amusement of your readers, and request the favour of their assistance in the attempt to develop their meaning. As these symbols were intended for the instruction and guidance of disciples only, they must, of course, have differed from the wise sayings of other philosophers by their studied ambiguity. The interpretation of them, therefore, is open to every one; and should the one which we may present, differ from that of any correspondent, we need not wonder, as the Pythagoreans themselves in after ages were found to differ in opinion. In order that the first on our list, may have a fair discussion, it will be necessary, as the learned reader will see, to present it in Greek characters.

1st Symbol.

Ζυγὸς καὶ ἀνισοβαρὴ.

Notwithstanding the opinion of some, the obvious translation of these words is, "Transgress, or exceed not the balance." Let us commence our inquiries into the meaning of the Symbols with this, which seems to present its meaning under a thinner veil than most of the others. We need not hesitate in explaining this, as a precept enjoining in the first instance, an equability of temper, and further, a due weighing of every con-

cern of our lives. In fact, this figure is so generally recognized and adopted, that in expressing ourselves on the duties of consideration and forethought, we find it difficult to avoid constant allusions to it.

We shall not be deemed guilty, it is hoped, of the absurd partiality for which commentators are notorious, when we urge the excellence and extensive applicableness of this precept: in truth, its qualifications need no trumpeting to recommend it. Even those who show their imperfect knowledge of it, by a limited use of it, allow it to have a superior claim to attention. It may seem paradoxical to charge any with an imperfect understanding of a precept so plain and brief. Yet it is even so: this precept, like every other, which prescribes our duty, is applauded, while contemplated in theory; all readily acknowledge, that reason should use her balance, and appoint to each his due. This we all consent to, for ourselves, while we can consider it theoretically, and for others, in every case; but when temptation or the passions are astir, we think only of balancing our own interests and feelings, and utterly forget that the duty is *mutual*. We are not to put all into our own scale; we are bound to endeavour at putting an equal weight into each scale, and to consult for our neighbour as for ourselves.

A philanthropic visionary might indulge himself in many an interesting scene of fancy's draught, if he were to give his fancy wing, and send her to range through life, with the power of weighing to each his due. We should then enjoy, at least in imagination, the exaltation and depression of many a head. What, for example, would be more gratifying, than, having winged our flight to famed Utopia's land, to

behold oppressive ministers degraded to be the slaves of a people they had oppressed, to see them sweating to scrape together wherewithal to pay the taxes, which, as ministers they had only laid on, not felt? to see principals turned into deputies, and deputies into principals; to see services rewarded, and idleness dismissed with contempt; to see the meritoriously, but obscurely laborious, sought out and invested with honours, which are now worn by the forward, bustling worthless. This is a theme which might well invite to indulge our fancy on, even to excess; but it may be better to come back to the world of realities; and, as we can not go forth with the wished for power of settling matters with such a balance, strive to use the balance of reason given us, and inculcate the use of it on others. It would not be amiss, perhaps, to recommend it to the attention of your correspondents, Solon, S. E. and A. and in short to all, who attempt to figure as disputants, with the mistaken notion, (as it would seem from their language) that hard words are essential to discussion. From it they might learn, that their differences, though interesting to themselves, cannot very deeply interest others, and that the time and pages given up to the expression of them, could be employed more profitably.

I shall conclude this with the

"In my zeal to reward the really tive, I have fallen into the absurdity of recommending an arrangement that would be like taking a burthen from the shoulder to place it on the other. The merits of both would be better adressed perhaps, by permitting those who are now deputies to remain in office, and sending the principals elsewhere, to display their acquired expertness in the art of doing nothing and receiving pay for it.

symbol next in order, which I shall present without any comment. as I purpose reserving my opinion of its meaning for another communication, and hope, that in the mean time it may prove a tub to the whale, and divert the rising wrath of those whom I have ventured, and I think not unjustly, to reprove.

Επι χελωνας μη ναδίζε.

"Do not sit upon a bushel."

MYSTIS.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

"IN PRISON AND YE VISITED ME."

TO visit the prisoner is one of those acts by which Christianity assures us we particularly recommend ourselves to the favour of the Almighty. Howard fulfilled this duty in a most exemplary manner. —In the beautiful language of Burke "he visited all Europe, not to survey the sumptuousness of palaces or the stateliness of temples, not to make accurate measurements of the remains of ancient grandeur, nor to form a scale of the curiosity of modern art, not to collect medals or collate manuscripts, but to dive into the depth of dungeons; to plunge into the infection of hospitals, to survey the mansions of sorrow and pain, to take the gauge and dimensions of misery, depression, and contempt, to remember the forgotten, to attend to the neglected, to visit the forsaken, and to compare and collate the distresses of all men in all countries. His plan was original; as full of genius as of humanity, it was a voyage of discovery, a circum-navigation of charity: already has the benefit of his labour been felt more or less in every country." This noble eulogy is not less true than deserved, though the latter part of it is

not so strictly fulfilled as the friends of humanity could wish. Neild, who, with a benevolence and perseverance not inferior to those of Howard, visited recently the prisons in Great Britain, found much misery and oppression, and in some places an ignorance of, and in others a scandalous inattention to those humane regulations enacted from time to time by the legislature for the comfort and protection of prisoners. Those who wish further information on this interesting subject, will find the communications I allude to inserted in the *Gentleman's Magazine* of 1807, in a series of letters from Neild to Dr. Lettsom. These exertions however, though not adequate to the removal of all the grievances that exist, have been of essential service. Sir Richard Phillips, when sheriff to the city of London, made many salutary reforms in the gaol there, and from the exertions of the Right Hon. Mr. Pole in Dublin, much advantage will necessarily arise—Almost all the new prisons that have been erected, are built on Howard's plan, and are consequently adapted not merely to the safe custody but to the well being of the confined, and from the general information that has gone forth upon the subject, we may reasonably expect that the horrid apparatus of dungeons is for ever abolished, and that prisoners will henceforward enjoy the privileges of light and air, and be lodged in dry and properly ventilated apartments. With respect then to the internal economy of prisons much has been accomplished, though much remains to be done; and yet it would have been fortunate for human nature if the exertions of those individuals, who have from time to time endeavoured to raise our penal code, had been equally successful. But

the theory of Beccaria, the arguments of Blackstone, the example of America, the eloquence of Dunning and the recent amiable and liberal zeal of sir Samuel Romilly, have all equally failed in proportioning punishments to crimes. To every attempt of this nature "*solumus leges Angliæ mutari*" has been the short reply. Happy would it have proved for the constitution if the same inflexibility in other instances had existed, and that the governing powers had only relaxed in this case; where the national advantage was so materially concerned, and the sacrifice of so many lives was so essentially involved. Under such circumstances it is doubly incumbent on individuals to endeavour to palliate a mischief which they cannot cure and to apply such remedies as may alleviate the complicated sufferings, that arise out of this chaos of mercy and severity, of tears and of blood. The reform which has been established in London, under the auspices of the Philanthropic society, and in Dublin as an appendage to the house of Industry, has been of infinite service in providing for the children of felons, and preventing their following the desperate vices of their parents; but for those parents an establishment is still more imperiously demanded, where he who has been the inmate of a prison may seek a refuge and obtain assistance and employment till a course of honest conduct at length renders him fit for the association of the virtuous. There is not upon the face of the earth a more desolate or truly pitiable object than the individual turned out from a gaol upon the world; the prejudice of his fellow creatures strong against him; for who that knows the fatal influence of evil communication upon the

heart and mind will admit him within his doors, who has been for months exposed to its depravation: all means of acquiring an honest livelihood thus cut off, what remains but a recurrence to the same depredations, which originally brought him to the prison, and will next probably conduct him out of it to the gallows. I am fully persuaded that if the truth were known, many men and women under the circumstances I describe have been driven to the perpetration of the most horrid crimes from not knowing where to obtain a morsel of food, or shelter from the inclemency of the season. To obtain food, shelter, and employment for these wretched outcasts, is the object of my present appeal; and I put it to the common humanity of the commonest mind, whether a more useful establishment ever yet existed than one which would afford a refuge to the poor stigmatized being, that is ready to perish, and has not the usual claims in his favour upon human commiseration.

Not that I would be understood as recommending a plan that involved any thing like compulsion. I would merely open the door to repentance and contrition, and give those, and there are many such in whom the latent principles of worth still continue operative, an opportunity of atoning by their industry for the wounds they have inflicted on society. They should be furnished with immediate employment, and their wages be expended in procuring them food, raiment and lodging: an arrangement might also be made to remove them from the immediate scene of their crime and their shame; by which means their amendment would be less liable to interruption from the seductions of their former associates, or

the reproaches of those whom they had injured.—Of the male offenders I am aware many are taken away to the army and navy: but the females still remain to be provided for, and surely an object more deserving compassion never solicited relief, than a woman thus situated—prostitution and petty thefts are their only resources, which they do not merely perpetrate themselves, but allure the young and the inexperienced, and thus spread to an indefinite extent the commission of every enormity. I repeat it—I would have no compulsion—I would merely have a notice posted on the walls of the prison and the sides of the dock, stating that those who, after their liberation, were inclined to labour, would be furnished with employment or assisted in such other manner as the circumstances of their case might appear to demand—this would be amply sufficient for all the purposes of true humanity: it would afford a shelter for those who really deserved one; and perhaps be the blessed means of restoring many to God and to society.

Every motive urges us to contribute to such an establishment. Do we wish to imitate the founder of our religion, let us like him feel and provide for the sinner. "I am not sent," he exclaims, "but to the lost sheep of the house of Israel," and again, "the son of man is come to save that which was lost." "How think ye, if a man have a hundred sheep, and one of them be gone astray, doth he not leave the ninety and nine, and go into the mountains, to seek that which is gone astray?" Such is the divine tendency of the faith we profess; and if there be any amongst us who have trod the paths of error, and like the

prodigal are perishing with hunger, shall we not give him a refuge? Shall we not, while yet he is a great way off see him, and have compassion on him and run and meet him, before despair prompt him to the commission of new enormities, and harden his heart to the feelings of sympathy and the consciousness of compassion? or do we wish to promote the public good, is there a way more effectual than arresting the progress of vice and limiting its contamination? or do we desire the applause of an approving conscience? there are no means so certain of procuring it, as in this way, like the forgiving father in the parable, "making merry and being glad," for can there be a purer source of joy than "that this our brother who was dead, is alive again; who was lost, is found."

I recommend this essay to your widely extended miscellany in the strong hope that it will meet the eye of some who are able as well as willing to lay the foundations of such an establishment as I have recommended: the first expense will be but small, nor can the disbursements in any event be considerable, as those only can become objects of its protection who are willing to assist themselves. I shall only add, that so thoroughly am I persuaded of the utility of such a scheme, I pledge myself to subscribe towards its support an annual contribution from the moment I can ascertain that there is a reasonable chance of its permanent establishment.

W. L.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

NINTH REPORT FROM THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, IN IRELAND.

To his Grace, Charles Duke of Richmond and Lenox, &c. Lord Lieutenant general, and general governor of Ireland.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR GRACE,

WE the undersigned Commissioners, appointed for inquiring into the several funds and revenues granted by public or private donations for the purposes of education, and into the state and condition of all schools upon public or charitable foundations, in Ireland, beg leave to lay before your grace our report upon the schools founded by Erasmus Smith, Esquire.

The governors of the schools founded by Erasmus Smith, were erected into a corporation by a charter of Charles the second, granted in the year 1669. The charter recites that Erasmus Smith, Esq. had intended to erect five grammar schools in Ireland, and endow them with convenient maintenance for schoolmasters, and to make provisions for other charitable uses. That on due consideration of the necessity of settling a more liberal maintenance for the schoolmasters, and making provision for clothing poor children and binding them out apprentices, he had thought fit to reduce the five intended schools to three, but yet to continue and settle the same lands and tenements, which were intended for the maintenance of five schools and other charitable uses, to be a perpetual revenue for maintaining three schools, and for carrying on the charitable uses aforesaid. That a bill for this purpose had been certified and transmitted to England under the great seal of Ireland, but had not yet passed into law. That in pursuance of the acts of settlement and explanation, certain persons nominated in the latter as trustees for the said Erasmus Smith, did, for him, and on his behalf, in the year 1664, present their petition to the commissioners for executing the act of scul-

ent, setting forth, that under the act of explanation they were entitled to the several lands, tenements and hereditaments mentioned in their said petition, under certain trusts and limitations, and praying an adjudication thereof, and a certificate of the commissioners, in order to their passing patent for the same. That the commissioners did accordingly certify and declare that the said lands, &c. had been seized and sequestered in account of the rebellion in 1641, and thereby vested in the crown; and that the same were assigned and set apart to the said Erasmus Smith, or those under whom he claimed, for their respective adventures, bond fide paid for lands forfeited in Ireland, and did therefore adjudge and decree that the said trustees were lawfully entitled to the said lands, tenements and hereditaments, according to the tenor of two acts of the 16th and 17th of Charles the first. That the said trustees had, in consequence, obtained letters patent under the great seal of Ireland, granting to them the said lands, &c. on the several trusts and intents therein mentioned, and among others, that they should receive the profits of the said lands, and employ them for the aforesaid charitable uses, until a corporation should be legally erected and established, under the name of "The governors of the schools founded by Erasmus Smith, Esq." and that when such a corporation should be erected, the said trustees should convey the lands mentioned in the letters patent to the said corporation and their successors for ever, to the uses and trusts therein mentioned, and that Erasmus Smith had since presented a petition to the king, praying the erection of such a corporation. The charter then in the first place grants to Erasmus Smith, his heirs, executors, &c. full power, licence and authority to establish three free grammar schools, one

in Drogheda, another in Galway, and the third in Tipperary; and empowers him during his life, and after his decease, or during his sickness or absence from Ireland, the governors of the said schools or any seven of them, (the treasurer being one,) to place so many, not exceeding twenty poor children, in each or any of them, as shall seem convenient, besides the children of Erasmus Smith's tenants, who are not limited to any number; and directs the appointment of a schoolmaster and usher to each school, who are to teach writing and accounts, the latin, greek and hebrew tongues, and to fit their scholars for the university if desired: It then proceeds to incorporate thirty-two persons by name (of whom the primate, the archbishop of Dublin, the chancellor, the three chief judges and the provost for the time being are always to be seven) into one body politic and corporate, to be called, "The governors of the schools founded by Erasmus Smith, esq." They and the survivors of them, and such as should from time to time be elected, to make up the said number, to be a corporation for ever, with power to purchase and hold lands, &c. to sue and be sued, to use a common seal, and to make leases for twenty-one years and no longer, and that in possession only and not in reversion, and without taking fines, and at the highest yearly rents that had been paid within seven years before the making or renewing any such leases. It then directs, that vacancies among the governors are to be filled up within six month by election of the remaining governors, or the greater number of them assembled for that purpose. That Erasmus Smith, during his life, and after his death, or during his absence or sickness, the governors or any seven of them, shall in the first instance, and afterwards from time to time as

vacancies may occur, have power to choose and appoint schoolmasters, ushers, scholars and officers for the said free schools, (such vacancies to be filled up within six months, or otherwise the king to elect) and to order, direct and visit, to place or displace, censure or punish the said masters, ushers and scholars, according to such rules and statutes as shall be devised and established by Erasmus Smith during his life, or after his death by the governors, or any seven of them, to whom a power and authority to make such rules is expressly granted by the charter. And it further exempts the said masters, &c. from any other visitation; but directs, that both masters and ushers shall on their appointment be approved by the archbishop or bishop of the diocese, on subscribing the two first canons of the church of Ireland. It further authorises the governors to receive from Erasmus Smith, his heirs, &c. and from his trustees before mentioned, the several lands, &c. granted to them by letters patent, and thereafter to be conveyed to the governors, to be employed for the maintenance of the said free schools, and the other charitable purposes aforesaid, chargeable however with the payment of one hundred pounds per annum to the governors of Christ's Hospital in London; and also to purchase and receive any other lands, tenements, &c. so as the same do not exceed two thousand pounds per annum. And it directs a treasurer to be appointed annually for receiving the rents thereof, who shall have sixpence in the pound on such receipts, and account yearly for the sums received and distributed by him before the primate, the chancellor, and the three chief judges, or any two of them. It fixes the salary of the masters at one hundred marks per annum, and that of the ushers at twen-

ty pounds per annum, provided the yearly rents of the lands amount to three hundred pounds per annum; and if they exceed that amount, the overplus is directed to be applied first, to repair and beautify the schools and school-houses; secondly, to the establishment of an Hebrew or other learned lecture in Trinity College at thirty pounds per annum; thirdly, to the binding out of poor children to be apprentices to protestant masters, and to the cloathing them while in the school, and to such other charitable uses as Erasmus Smith by deed or will shall appoint. Lastly, the charter approves and confirms certain rules and orders drawn up and submitted by Erasmus Smith, in his petition aforesaid, for the regulation of the Schools and the conduct of the masters and ushers, and restrains the governors from making rules, orders, or bye laws contrary to the same.

In the tenth year of George the first, an act was passed "for the further application of the rents and profits of the lands, &c. given by Erasmus Smith, esq. for charitable uses," which, after reciting the disposition of the said rents and profits made by the charter of Charles the second, and subsequently by the governors in founding thirty-five exhibitions for poor students of Trinity College, and that the said lands now yielded a yearly surplus rent over and above the sums thus annually paid thereout, enacts, first that three new fellowships shall be established in the said college.—Secondly, two public lecturers, one of oratory and history, and the other of natural and experimental philosophy, with salaries of thirty five pounds per annum. Thirdly confines the foundation of the thirty five exhibitions, and directs that they shall be continued to the student holding the same till otherwise

provided for, or till they are of the standing of A. M. Fourthly, empowers the governors to apply the cash now in their treasurer's hands to erect new buildings in the College. Fifthly, it confirms an agreement made by the governors with the governors of the Bluecoat Hospital in Dublin, to the following effect, "that, in consideration of the sum of three hundred pounds given by the governors of the schools to the governors of the hospital towards building an infirmary, provision should be made in the hospital for the reception of twenty boys to be placed therein by the governors of the hospital schools, and maintained by them at the same rate with the other boys, and to be apprenticed by them at their own expence, giving the same apprentice fee that is paid by the governors of the hospital with the boys they apprentice; that the lord mayor, recorder, and two aldermen of the city of Dublin, to be chosen by the governors of the hospital, shall be standing governors of the schools, and that four of the governors of the schools by them to be chosen, of whom the treasurer to be one, shall be standing governors of the hospital." Sixthly, it authorizes and empowers the governors to apply any further or future overplus arising from any increase of the rents and profits of their lands, towards some public work, or use in the college or bluecoat hospital, to the putting out more poor children to school or apprentices, and founding one or more English schools whenever they shall think proper or convenient.

In pursuance of the powers thus vested in them, the governors have been enabled, by the successive rises in the value of the lands conveyed to them, not only to found several English schools in different parts of Ireland, but to increase the number of grammar schools to four, and to

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enlarge the appointments of the masters and ushers. The additional grammar school is at Ennis, and the English schools at present established are at Nenagh, Tárbert and Temple-derry, besides one on the Coombe in the city of Dublin, on a much larger scale, and maintained at a considerable expence. They have also added ten to the number of boys maintained by them in the bluecoat hospital, endowed two new professorships in trinity college with liberal salaries, and a further allowance for assistants, and increased the appointments of the lecturers there established by the 10th of George the first; and a charter school having been erected in the neighbourhood of their lands, in the county of Sligo, they contribute two hundred and fifty pounds per annum towards the maintenance of that establishment, besides prevailing with one of their tenants to let the master have fourteen acres of ground adjoining the school, at the same rent which he pays to the governors.*

It appears from the rental of the lands now in possession of the governors, and which lands are situate in the counties of Limerick, Galway, Tipperary, Westmeath and Sligo (including a rent charge of one hundred pounds in the county of Clare, and a fee farm of £25 per annum in the King's County,) that the yearly rent payable thereout at May 1808, amounted to six thousand seven hundred and seventeen pounds one shilling; and that a rise in the county of Galway estate was to commence from that period, amounting to eight hundred and sixty-seven pounds fifteen shillings per annum. It further appears by the return of the register (which together with a copy of the rental is herewith submitted to your

* The governors have also, in addition, given to this charter school for several years past, seventeen acres of their lands adjoining it, RENT FREE.

grace,) that the stated annual expenditure of the governors (exclusive of repairs and buildings and treasurer and agent's fees,) amounts at present to about four thousand pounds per annum. That, in consequence of this excess of income above the expenditure for a great number of years, and notwithstanding very considerable grants* of money from time to time made for building and other uses to Trinity College and the bluecoat hospital, so great an overplus has accrued, that the governors have purchased government stock to the amount of six thousand pounds, in the five per cents, and twenty-nine thousand pounds in the three and an half per cents, producing an annual income, at this time of thirteen hundred and fifteen pounds, besides in the agent's hands, on the 1st of May, 1809, a balance of—.

The accumulation of so very large a surplus fund deserves, and has of late engaged the serious attention of the governors, who are certainly called on to devise means of appropriating it, agreeably to the provisions and injunctions of the charter and act of tenth of George the first. Some of their plans for this purpose have been communicated to us by their register, and by such of the governors themselves as are members of this board. They have resolved on founding an additional number of English schools, on a plan which bids fair

to be generally and extensively useful, whenever any proprietor of land is desirous of having one established on his estate; provided the situation is otherwise eligible. The governors agree, on his conveying to them in perpetuity, a certain proportion of land, not exceeding two acres, to contribute a sum not greater than three hundred pounds towards erecting a school-house thereon, and to grant an endowment to the master of thirty pounds per annum. Eleven such schools have been already approved of by the governors, and applications for many more have been received, and may be expected, especially if an act should be passed by the legislature for enlarging the powers of persons under settlement to make conveyance of land for the purpose of endowing schools. They have also determined on building a new school-house at Galway, the plan and estimate for which have been approved of; and which with the expence of inclosing the ground, and other necessary works, will not be completed for less than between five and six thousand pounds. It has also been proposed by the treasurer, and is now under the consideration of the governors, to grant a considerable sum to the governors of the bluecoat hospital, towards completing the plan of its buildings and for the repair of those already erected. Another extensive English school is also to be immediately established in the city of Dublin on the plan of that already mentioned. A plot of ground in St Mark's parish has been taken for the purpose; and a plan of the building has been submitted to the governors, but not yet approved of, and it is their intention to found one or two more, as soon as proper sites can be obtained, in the

* One of these grants to Trinity College was of no less a sum than eight thousand pounds British, for the purchase of the Library of Mr. Fagel, pensionary of Holland, who had removed it to London, on the invasion of that country by the French in the year 1794. A separate apartment has been fitted up for its reception in the college library, to which it forms a splendid and most valuable addition.

orer and more populous districts the city. The success of that which has now been carried on some years on the Coombe, such as to encourage them in institution of such establishments. Still, after all these proposed measures shall have been carried into effect, there will remain large and increasing surplus of some, for which it is hoped the vernors will provide a timely and adequate application, so as to prevent its ever again accumulating its present amount.

To be Continued.

from the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

ATTEMPT TO ACCOUNT FOR THE ORIGIN OF THE IRISH.

quid non longa dies, quid non consumitis anni?

IN reviewing the annals of the original population of every country, whether rude or civilized, we find the former character has been stigmatized all that we read of there must needs become mixed of doubt entertained with regard to their authenticity. Ever since the confusion of tongues prevailed at the building of the *Tower*

Babel (for prior to that time, the language was common among the then limited tribes) mankind began to settle in different colonies, their progeny multiplied, their numbers daily increased, and the faculty of speech, with multiplied sorts of it, soon extended over numberless tracts of the habitable globe. In some manner like this, did mankind, after the universal inundation of the world, distinguish themselves into several tribes or colonies; and the places they had hitherto lived in together, being grown too strait for them, was agreed upon, which way

each several tribe or colony should steer its course, beginning with the countries that were next them, and designing to proceed further and further as the increase of their several companies should require. But, in process of time, according as the human race enlarged in their primitive numbers, some contented themselves with the spontaneous produce of the earth, such as herbs, plants, &c. to be exposed to the inclemency of the seasons, the injuries of the air, the ravages of wild beasts, and sometimes to hunger and cold; and to be compelled to take shelter in subterraneous caves, formed without manual art or dexterity; whilst others, again, not willing to conform to this mode of subsistence, chose to emigrate as a banditti, into foreign districts, to live upon the produce and industry of their neighbours. Sometimes, however, if the country had been stored with inhabitants of the same institutions, customs, and laws; in a word, if they bore a pretty exact resemblance to one another, a sort of bond, or union would be immediately formed between them, for the most part through interest and self-defence, in order to continue without hurt in these possessions, or to protect themselves from the fury of their contending adversaries. Hence it follows, that they would be more susceptible of transmitting their name and transactions, to succeeding ages. For instance, in England, though the *ancient Britons* were so harrassed and oppressed by the invasions of their northern neighbours the *Scots* and *Picts*, as to solicit a speedy assistance from the *Saxons*, a warlike people, inhabiting the north of Germany, which last did not long remain in tranquil possession of the kingdom, till they were vanquished by the *Danes*

a robust and enterprising people, who had long infested the northern seas by their perpetual piracies, and were afterwards succeeded by the *Normans*, under the command of their leader, William; yet I say, considering all this continued scene of desolation and terror, some of its primeval inhabitants survived the wreck of their oppressors.

From the view now given, which is no more than superficial, it is alone evident, that in every country in the universe, the vestiges of its antique and primitive owners, may, in some form or other be traced. But our main point in question now is, *who were the original inhabitants of Ireland, and by what means came THEY there?*

But before we enter into this inquiry, it is proper to advance the following observations: First, That by penetrating into distant ages of antiquity, no certain or plausible documents can be relied on, concerning the truth or falsehood of any particular nation; for in the words of Virgil, "*Ævi longinqua volet mutare vetustas.*" Secondly, That as mankind were once in a state of barbarism and uncivilization, very few traces of refinement and veracity can be expected to come through such a channel. Thirdly, From which we infer, that whenever advanced to a higher degree of bodily perfection and mental improvement, they are willing to represent their genuine ancestry in as illustrious a point of view as possible.

It is therefore apparent, that in tracing the history of any country, fiction may assume a real appearance of truth, and light be involved in the gloomy regions of obscurity. Besides, in the present case, it is a fact to which many

candid minds will consent, that to explore the true origin of the *Irish* is attended with much darkness and difficulty, even a task almost impracticable, as it would be to form a direct and regular path through the great Desert of *Cobi*, in Chinese Tartary, or to inclose the sea within certain limits. But overlooking such obstacles, let us adduce the opinions of some writers, recent and ancient, and, if within the compass of our power, point out their defects, and admit only of those that are most congenial to the general unison of history.

By some historians, then, Ireland is supposed to have been peopled from *Spain*, which subjected the inhabitants to a state of the meanest servitude. But from many circumstances they appear to have had the same origin in common with their neighbours, and that this country was first peopled from *Scythia* and *Sarmatia*; for the nation of the Scythians was always reckoned very ancient, even by some as of more remote antiquity than Egypt, which was once the nurse and parent of arts and of superstition.

Wherefore then, were it not to be admitted that the Scythians (who were a colony that settled there, from Spain, and introduced the Phœnician language and letters, about five hundred years before the Christian æra,) were the first inhabitants of Erin? the one circumstance we can propose without hesitation, that like the Irish were once a people living in the hunter or shepherd state, not attending to the arts of commerce, civilization, nor industry, neither plowing their land, nor constructing houses, dwellings, or habitations, but always tending their flocks and herds, and accu-

omed to wander through uncultivated deserts. Like them also, they lived upon milk and honey, plants, vegetables and various other natural productions of their soil. The use of wool, and clothes, was in a great measure, if not altogether, unknown to them; and being sometimes pinched by immoderate cold, and other inconveniencies, arising from the numerous lakes, morasses, and forests, with which the country in particular abounded, they were actuated from motives of self-preservation to make use of skins of animals, both great and small. Moreover, they would be itinerants, having no fixed residence, without kings to govern them, or courts of judicature to appeal to, even when the cry of justice would loudly call for the punishment due to tyrannical power. Thus, as among the gregarious kinds of animals, rank would be principally supported by the effect of strength, courage, velocity, activity, or such other qualities of the body. Finally, the jarring seeds of discord and animosity, would soon enliven their breasts; citizens would contend with citizens, friends with friends.

Hence, it would immediately come to pass, like the state of mankind mentioned by Ovid in his *Iron age*, that truth, modesty, and every social virtue would no longer shine with a conspicuous lustre, but would be succeeded by fraud, avarice, force, and every baneful art—

“ Now (brandish'd weapons glittering in
their hands)
Mankind is broken loose from moral
bands,
Faith flies, and piety in exile mourns;
And justice here oppress'd, to heav'n re-
turns.”

Nor is the account here given of the Aborigines, or first inhabitants

of Ireland, improbable; neither is it an ideal picture, without any foundation in reason or history; for that such was, in a great measure, their primitive condition, need not cost one anxious thought or wish.

But to return from this digression, if any it be, it is reported that when Julius Cæsar made his expedition into Britain, he describes Hibernia as being about one half the size of the island which he had explored; and while the Romans maintained their conquests in the latter region, Ireland continued of course to be well known to them; and Ptolemy, who is styled the father of Geography, has given a map of the island, which is superior in accuracy to that which represents Scotland. It is well known, however, that towards the decline of the Western empire, as the country became more and more common to human researches, and peopled by various tribes, that the ruling people which the Romans found in Ireland, were the *Scoti* or *Scots*; and thenceforth the country began to be termed *Scotia*, “an appellation,” says Mr Pinkerton, “retained by the monastic writers till the eleventh century, when the name *Scotia* having passed to modern Scotland, the ancient name of Hibernia began to reassume its honours.

But if Ireland was first inhabited by the Scots or Caledonians, especially in the time that the Roman general invaded Albion, (which was, according to chronological calculation, fifty two years before Christ) why, it may be asked, did they not continue in possession of it? But this question, it may be remarked, is no less extravagant than it is absurd; for among all the nations we read of in writings sacred or profane, none did thoroughly pre-

serve their real pedigree to times more advanced in the records of history. This may be accounted for on principles the most incontestible, and carrying with them the most obvious conviction: which are, First, The baneful effects of the ravages of war, one corps being infinitely eclipsed by another in number, courage, military discipline or skill: Secondly, The nature of the climate, or the bad constitution of their government, whereby they being forced to visit other shores, they would be warranted to enjoy security of their persons and property, without fear to annoy, or carnage to afflict them. From which it happens, that the original natives of Ireland, like those of other countries, were involved in a perpetual scene of warfare, when placed in such junctures; and in order to defend themselves from the voracious jaws of their opponents, their numbers would be reduced to the most inconsiderable importance.

I make no doubt that the Scots seized the greater part of this country, and confirmed it in their hands for a considerable series of time; and that being unable to occupy the productive parts of it, especially those adapted for sea-faring business, they were necessitated by their savage invaders to possess other tracts less favourable perhaps, to their tempers and dispositions. But the most plausible account I think can be given, and which holds good at the present day, is, that the Scots possessed the northern parts of Ireland, more particularly the province of Ulster, and retained them, as it were, indelible, through the corroding hand of time.

Again: other writers assert that the *Celtic Gauls* first peopled the kingdom of Ireland, and that from

them some of the more modern residents derive their origin. This indeed is no hypothesis nor chimerical position; for were we to trace the source of several nations in Europe, particularly Denmark, England, France, Batavia or Holland, the Netherlands, Spain, Switzerland, and divers others besides Ireland, we would immediately find the *Celts*, notwithstanding their being gradually repelled by more powerful assailants, to remoter parts of their countries, to be the only people of whom we have any gratifying proofs that have any claim to these dominions. Wherefore, to corroborate this opinion, we need only refer to the ancient language of the Irish, when we shall find it to be a dialect of the Celtic, intermingled with many Gothic words, imported by the Belgic colonies, by the Scandinavians, and by the English.

Without tracing any further the original population of Ireland, as it is a topic, indeed, somewhat obscure and intricate, it may not be improper to observe concerning the present Irish, that there are *three* races of people in the island, which are; First, The *Spanish* found in Kerry, and a part of Limerick and Cork; these, according to the Rev. J. Goldsmith, are "tall and thin, but well made, of a long visage, dark eyes, and long black lank hair." In the time of Elizabeth, he says, the Spaniards had a settlement on the coast of Kerry, and the island of Valentia derives its name from Spanish origin: second: The *Scotch* race in the north are distinguished by complexion, accent, and many peculiarities which mark the northern Britons. Third: in a district near Dublin, and in the county of Wexford, the *Saxon* tongue is spoken without receiving much mixture or corruption from

that of the Irish, and the people have a diversity of customs and manners which distinguish them strikingly from natives of the same island. The rest of the kingdom is, according to Mr. Arthur Young, made up of mongrels. The Milesian or Spanish race of Irish, which may be called native, is scattered over the kingdom, but chiefly found in Connaught and Munster."

But notwithstanding the darkness and perplexity in which the general history of this country is involved, I would not say, as some writers pretend, that it is "merely fabulous" until the coming of Henry the second. No doubt, very few literary monuments have been yet discovered in Ireland, earlier than the introduction of Christianity into the country, and that the evidence of any transaction previous to that time, rests entirely on the credit of Christian writers, and their collections from old poets, or their transcripts of records may be deemed to have been made in the abandoned ages of superstition and paganism. But certain it is, that its history may be traced with equal authenticity through the medium of the very same materials that other nations trace theirs, and that for several centuries preceding the birth of Christ, Ireland had arts and polity when England had neither. For "long before the arrival of *Saint Patrick* in the 5th century, the Christian religion had been received in Ireland;" and at his coming he found there many holy and learned preachers, whose votaries were pious and obedient: and, as the Rev. Clement Cruttwell justly remarks, "that good man but established and confirmed the gospel that had been introduced before."

S. S.

*Belfast, September, 1810.**For the Belfast Magazine.**To the Proprietors*

A LITTLE LEARNING NOT DANGEROUS.

SURELY of all the defects of the present generation in Ireland, pedantry least deserves the lash, which it has met in your 28th number of the magazine: It is indeed fairly banished from society: But it is much to be doubted whether society has gained any thing by the change. The ignorant now stalk abroad with bold unblushing fronts, and the wretched half-formed conceit with which they unmercifully wound our ears, are not less insufferable for being the genuine unadulterated production of their own shallow brains. I am no friend to pedantry, nor to any other species of affectation, but it is not hard to prove, that quotations even from the mouth of a pedant, are more tolerable than the noisy effusions of ignorance; for at least the quotations themselves have some sense, and often much wit and judgment, but what has the babbling of ignorance to recommend it? It is true frequent repetitions of the same things, how good so ever, give disgust; but is the ignorant man less apt to repeat the same foolish sentences, than the man of learning is to quote wise ones?

When a man, after having spent ten or twelve years at school and college, comes to mix with the world, what is his disappointment to find ignorance so triumphant? that he must not even hint at any part of any of the studies, which has so long engaged his attention, under the severe penalty of being deemed a pedant? and that he might speak treason with more safety than a sentence of Greek or Latin? In the name of God, if those languages are so offensive to society, that they must be studied in secret, like what was fabled of the black-art; and that it must be reckoned

a breach of decorum, even to hint at them, let us be consistent, and not compel our sons to learn what we seem to have determined to be so much worse than useless; and at least spare them the punishments of knowing those proscribed languages, which some of us have been forced to suffer.

The smooth versification, and harmonious numbers of Pope, have served as vehicles to many other false notions, as well as that which your *constant reader* has quoted as a sarcasm against learning. I attribute no unfair novelty to him in this, for it has often been done before. It is in fact the grand palladium of Ignorance; which, by the words of Pope, "A little learning is a dangerous thing," as by a magic spell, would have his indolence made to appear judgment and good sense; which preferred to have no learning at all, since he could not have a vast deal: by which sage precaution he has wisely escaped the horrid dangers of "a little learning."

I often observe sentences from Pope quoted like texts from scripture, on other occasions as well as this, as a rule for morals and conduct; much might be written on the danger of this practice, but I shall only observe of it here, that quotations, like texts, detached from their context, are often forced to support opinions which the writers never imagined. Pope never meant the above words as a general precept; they are taken from his essay on criticism, and for criticism alone were they intended. Pope means to state the absurdity of a half-learned man presuming to become a critic; and in this sense the words are just and true, but as a general precept, in the sense put on them by your correspondent, and many others, they have neither truth nor propriety.

As well might you say, that a little light was dangerous, and that total darkness was preferable, as that learning was so. Light is often used as the symbol of learning, and darkness of ignorance, and indeed what the one is to the body, the other is to the mind, in all respects; the least light is better than none, and so is the least learning; if the light is not sufficient for works of a refined and exquisite nature, at least it may be so for those of a coarser kind; the case is the same with learning, and it is only in attempting works for which either our light, or our learning, is insufficient, that we run any risk of acting improperly. Here indeed is a wide field for censure, and never was there a time when this species of presumption afforded such a ripe harvest for the satyrist; every art and every science is thronged with pretenders, and inspiration is no longer confined to religion, if their boasts are to be credited.

Every thing useful is liable to abuse, and if we are to reject a little learning, because we cannot have a great deal, and because it may be made an ill use of; on the same principle we should banish spectacles, crutches, wooden legs, and gouty-chairs, for being so inferior to good eyes and sound limbs, and because the crutch and wooden leg may be converted into instruments of offence, as well as of convenience, and the gouty-chair may upset, and bruise one on the ground, and even the spectacles may break and cut our cheeks and eyes.

Perhaps in this case, as well as in many others, difference of opinion may arise from the same word conveying different ideas to each party: and it is probable that the word LEARNING may be as much of this nature, as any other: for my part, I am inclined to narrow its limits

more than your constant reader may suppose; for I would not esteem a man learned for a proficiency in a dead language, however extensive, if unaccompanied by any acquaintance with science; it is to science, and to it alone I would limit this honourable appellation, and what is here said, in favour of its being useful in all degrees from the lowest upwards, relates merely to it. To acquire the knowledge of a language, memory is the chief faculty requisite; and there are many remarkable instances of a most powerful memory existing in minds very deficient in all other respects; add to this, that if we consider a language as any thing else than a vehicle for acquiring, and communicating information and that in itself it contains some excellence exclusive of this, we might then have learned parrots and naggies, and all the fish-women of Athens and Rome must have been ladies of the most profound erudition. What I have said then of the Greek and Latin languages, I would not have to be understood either to recommend the study of them, nor what I say here to discommend it; for though it may not deserve the name of learning, by itself, it may be advantageous in other respects.

All I would declare on this point is, (what cannot be too often repeated,) that, if Greek and Latin are so offensive to society that they cannot be quoted, or even hinted at in company with decorum; they should be banished from education altogether, as something noxious; and innocent boys no longer be compelled to years of drudgery in learning, what they can only use in secret, if they would escape hatred and contempt: or if, on the other hand, those languages are admirable in themselves, and serve as the paths to much useful knowledge, and to great mental improvement, that then those who were acquainted with them might no longer

be ashamed to own their acquirements and might be at least allowed to talk of them as often in public, without any infringement on good manners, as musical and graphical proficient are entitled to bring forward their favourite topics of conversation on the various objects of their studies.

Several of the essayists have shewn that the appellation of pedant ought not to be confined solely to the student of the learned languages: any one in fact deserves the name, who in conversation forces the objects of his trade, art, science, or profession, on the attention of a company, who are neither acquainted with them, or interested about them: and in this point of view, more pedants infinitely are now to be found among the amateurs of painting, and music, than among the admirers of the dead languages; of whom so very few err in this way now, particularly in this part of the world, that it is surprising any person should think it necessary to excite towards them in the least the public attention.

I would wish to say here a few words in answer to another oblique blow against learning from other quarters; which I believe, at least in some instances, to have been made by those who did not altogether intend it as such, since I know them to be decided enemies to the bedarkners. I have seen it frequently stated of late, that *learning was not wisdom*, with a design to take something from the importance of at least the higher species of it. This in itself is a trueism; certainly learning is not wisdom, neither is it virtue; but no one will dispute that it is an excellent instrument towards the acquirement of the first, and the confirmation of the latter: and in fact this very trueism conveys an indirect compliment to learning, for it evidently implies that learning so much resembles wisdom, as to be occasionally mistaken for it, than

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which scarcely any thing could be said more in its favour.

Much, if not all, that has been written and said to the disadvantage of those called learned men, appears to have arisen from the mistake, before mentioned, of dignifying mere linguists with this appellation: the following extract from a French writer, (quoted in a note on a passage a little preceding the line of Pope before inserted), expresses exactly what seems the real truth on this subject:

“Un homme qui sait plusieurs langues, qui entend les auteurs Grecs et Latins, qui s'élève même à la dignité de SCHOLIASTE; si cet homme venoit à peser son véritable mérite, il trouveroit souvent qu'il se réduit à avoir eu des yeux et de la mémoire, il se garderoit bien de donner le nom respectable de science à une *erudition sans lumière*. Il y a une grande différence entre s'enrichir des mots ou des choses, entre alléguer des autorités ou des raisons. Si un homme pouvoit se suspendre à n'avoir que cette sorte de mérite, il en rougiroit plutôt que d'en être vain.”

The distinction recommended in this passage, will, while it greatly thins the ranks of those who wish to be thought learned, take away at the same time much of the obloquy that has been unjustly cast on learning, and if it once became generally adopted, we should seldom, if ever, hear the expressions, “learned block-heads,” “learned asses,” and others of this nature, which are now so common.

If indeed there is any danger in learning, it arises from an excess of it, rather than from a small quantity, contrary to the opinion of those who misinterpret Pope's lines in the manner before stated. When the love of science becomes a passion, it frequently hurries away the mind in its pursuit, to the neglect of all prudential considerations, and health

itself is often among the first and most fatal of those sacrifices: few who have at all trod the paths of learning, but have to lament the fate of some amiable friend snatched off in the prime of life from a career of promise, and of fame, by imprudencies of this nature. But in the lower gradations of learning, none of those dangers can occur; in fact, the first steps of it are all crowned with profit and advantage; and it is only on the lofty summit, that those fatal precipices are found, from whence the imprudent are precipitated, when they seem to have just reached the temple of fame.

I hope now we shall not hear so much of a little learning being a dangerous thing, as a precept for general conduct; but that the words may be confined to the sense for which Pope intended them, and be applied solely to criticism, and critics; who certainly cannot be too much reprobated for attempting the task of correction, with a scanty portion of learning; and if they taste at all, should drink deeply of the ‘Pierian spring.’

In concluding, I must beg leave to notice another passage in the paper of your constant reader, in which he states that “An arrangement of words, a disposition of sentences, an adjustment of phrases, with a grammatical regularity, may be *caught*, and produce a flowing set of rounded periods.”

While I agree with him that all these are worth nothing, unless they convey reflections of importance; I must at the same time deny the assertion strenuously, that such advantages can be *caught*. They are in fact the fruits of much study and practice, and whoever thinks to attain them in any other way, will soon find his error. Indeed, if we might judge from the attempts we see made by many to perform on

the slightest preparation, matters for which, much proficiency in science, and long and diligent study, can alone produce proper qualifications, we would have reason to suppose that opinions of this kind were universal, and that it was imagined that not only the art of composing with grace and eloquence was to be *caught*, but that all other arts and sciences, were to be attained on the same easy terms: or, as before hinted at, that inspiration was no longer confined to reward religious excellence, but was at the command of every one, to endow him at a wish with any art, science, or accomplishment, that his vanity or interest might lead him to esteem advantageous.

If your reader still thinks that the art of writing with elegance may be caught, it would be a great favour to shew where the infection may be met with; for my own part, I would go some length to expose myself to it; for having, as you may perceive, not been yet quite cured of the *cacoethes scribendi*, this other species of infection would evidently form a most desirable accompaniment. B.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

TRANSLATION OF A LETTER, FROM
MARCUS BRUTUS, TO MAR-
CUS TULLIUS CICERO; WHICH IS
EMINENTLY ILLUSTRATIVE OF THE
CHARACTERS OF THE MEN AND OF
THE TIMES.

ATICUS sent me an extract of your letter to Octavius Cæsar. — You have been so long my faithful friend, that I can receive little new pleasure in reading your expressions of regard for my general welfare, and solicitude for my personal safety. I am so accustomed to hear of what Cicero has said, or of what he has done, to serve my in-

terest, or exalt my character, that such proofs of friendship have lost the freshness of novelty, and I am come to look on them as things of course, mere occurrences of the day, I am, on this account, the less able to bear the pain which this part of your letter has given me, that relates to us, and to our cause.

When you express your gratitude to Octavius, in such a fulsome detail of cringing adulation, (I feel my cheeks reddened as I write—the rank and station of a republican recoil at the idea—recommend our lives to him! as well recommend to him the daggers with which we stabbed his uncle—), when you are thus eager in paying homage, and in imploring clemency, do you not, as it were, mount the rostrum, to declare, that it is in vain for us to remove the masterdom, while you are resolved to keep the master, and is not Cicero transformed into a lictor, who lays down the fasces of the empire at the feet of a boy?

Recollect the words you have written, and, if you dare, deny, that they presuppose, on the one part, the impotence of the slave, and on the other, the self-sufficiency of the tyrant." One request, you say, must be made, one supplication, that he will not use those men ill, of whom the Roman world think well, that he will save such respected citizens"—what if he refuses to save us?—Shall we not be safe? our right hands have taught us how. Better indeed to perish than to find safety through him. I do not think, no, by the gods, by virtue, the god within me, whom I chuse to worship, I do not think, that we of Rome have deserved so ill of heaven, as to petition any inferior power for the safety of a single citizen, much less for the saviours of the world. I speak like a boaster; I should not do

so, but to those who are as little acquainted with the measures of fear, as with the measures and limit of submission.

Can Cicero confess that Octavius is all powerful, and yet be his flatterer and friend? Could Cicero bear to see Brutus reside in Rome, if to reside in Rome, Brutus must intercede for passport and protection from this boy? Is this stripling to be made the subject of Cicero's panegyric, for willing, for suffering the breath of life to remain in our nostrils, for graciously *conspiring* at the life of a Roman? Is he conferring a favour, when rather than suffer Anthony to tyrannize over us, he, with all humility, would chuse to play the tyrant himself? were he the avenger of usurpation, not as he is, the mere vicegerent of an usurper, would you be found, at this time, to supplicate for men who have deserved of their country as we have done?

It was, in truth, a want of energy, a want of self-confidence, not confined to your breast, but diffused through the public mind, which instigated Cæsar to the wretched ambition of sovereignty; which, when he fell, stimulated Anthony to make the dead body a foot-stool to raise himself above his equals, and which, at this moment, lifts up this young man to such an overweening height, that with uplifted hands, and upturned eyes, you must propitiate his mercy for us—the mercy of a scarce-bearded boy, without which there can be no redemption. But if some among us would, or if they could remember they were Romans, bold as these have been to rob us of our rights, they should meet with others as bold to vindicate them, and though the crown of Cæsar might sparkle in the eyes of Anthony, the wounds of Cæsar would burst out in his memory, and quell the mad-

ness of his heart. You, Cicero, you, who so illustriously avenged yourself on the enemies of your country, how can you bear, at one moment, to recollect the deeds you have done, and in the next, to approve of such men, and such measures, to debase yourself into such lowliness, as even to have the *substance* of approbation!

From whence sprung your enmity to Anthony? was it from personal pique, or for the general good? you said the latter. It was, you said, because he wanted to make his hand the sword of justice, and his heart the fountain of mercy. It was because he wanted to dole out rights and liberties to the very men from whom he had begged his life. It was because the weal or woe of the empire was to hang as it were by a hair of his head, to be blessed, when he was in good humour, and to totter, when he frowned. You called aloud to arms, why? was it that the genius of Rome should rouse to vengeance, or was it that Cicero might gratulate a successor! My eloquent friend turned sophist, to prove that it is good to serve, if we serve a good master! If any master could be good, we might fare well and fatten in the service of so good a master as Anthony. What, think you, would he deny to men, whose *patience* was his sole ground of safety. We might obtain every thing from his fears, except that, without which all is nothing,—Liberty, and Honour!

If we must talk of these things as if we were haggling in the market place about a bargain, how much, pray you, would our apathy and acquiescence *come to* in the estimate of this boy, who seems to think, forsooth, he ought to succeed Cæsar in nature, because he succeeds him in name. How much would he give us, were we content to live in peace? to grow fat and

look, and shining, to lay up trash in coffers, and to divert ourselves with counters, and consular dignities!

But Caesar had then been sacrificed in vain. In vain had I lifted this arm against the living Caesar, if the dead Caesar is to be a god, and we are idolaters: if his spirit be suffered to walk abroad, and migrate to other men. My sword, in this case, ought to have slept in its scabbard. May the gods blot out, and annihilate every feeling of my soul, rather than the one which, at this moment prompts me to declare, so far from suffering in this second career, what I disclaimed to suffer from the first, that if he who begot me had done as Caesar did, I should have done as I did; nor should it have saved him, had he cry'd aloud, I am your Father! No, by heaven, of he whom I call father, shall violate the laws, shall trample upon our liberties with impunity while I am a being.

Is it possible, Cicero, you can suppose the state to be free, if the supporters of the state be obliged to culk in holes, and corners, when its countenance lours, or to come broad like reptiles, and sport in the sunshine of his favour? Not even Octavius, I tell you, my friend, can grant the prayer of your petition, You intercede for our safety, that is, you ask quarter for our lives, insurance for the lives of slaves! who will insure the lives of those who have lost their liberty, and stained their honour! But then you say, We may reside in Rome. Liberty, my friend, has nothing local in it. It is not confined to the stone and marble of your capital.-- If I be free, I shall carry Rome long with me, and they are enemies in Rome, who can bear the entumescies or the courtesies of a tyrant. In Greece that title was

fatal to the surviving family, but when this had insulted us, by adopting the very name of the late usurper, Cicero runs to recognize the name, gives the all hail! falls on his knees for the safety of those who had saved the state, and makes that state once more, not merely a nominal, but a real, substantial slave, an abandoned irredeemable slave, that kicks away the cap of liberty, and dances to the clink of his chains. If Caesar himself, in his plenitude of power felt what could be done by one or two resolute men, shall we now crouch to the sovereignty of his naked name? Rome appears to me, like a huge, unwieldy ox goaded on by a boy. The name of Caesar serves Octavius by way of goad, and the great animal moves along; unconscious of its strength, and patient of injury.

Never, therefore, from this hour, commend my safety to this Caesar of yours. Never, if you love me, commend your own. You pay too high a price for a few years of frail and feverish life, if you purchase them with a single prostration at the feet of an equal. I should not wish that your enemies had it in their power to put such a vile construction on your prosecution of Antony, as to refer it to motives of personal fear, rather than to a regard for the common weal; and I should be sorry to see them urge this petition of yours as one proof that Cicero could contrive to bear tyranny, provided he had a tyrant to his taste. I applaud the boy, for the good you say he has done. If this will be should resemble the has been, if it appear that his aim is to level upstart ambition, not to put his own in its place, I shall applaud him more. But if, on this account, you dress him up in the attributes of sovereignty, with the prerogative to pardon, or to punish,

you compliment him rather too highly. I have no notion, Cicero, of handing over the common-wealth to any person, by way of compliment.

Cicero, the man that writes to you, not only will not pray for life, but, as far as he can, will hold down those that offer to do so for him. I am determined to banish your servile city, satisfied as I am, that wherever liberty is, there is Rome, there is my country. Yet, sometimes I shall sigh, to think of those left behind, whom a fulness of years, only renders more avaricious of life, a life drawn to the very lees, accounted more precious than honour, friendship, and fair fame. Happy in the home of my own heart, I shall think myself sufficiently rich in the debt of gratitude, which the world owes but has not paid me, and I shall glory in being the disinterested creditor of mankind. I know nothing sweeter than the memory of virtuous actions, nothing greater than the stern self-sufficiency of freedom. As to what has been done, it has been well done; as to what there is to do, I know what I shall do. Sunk as your city is, I shall not sink or succumb. I shall never be over-ruled by those who wish that others should rule over them. All things I will try, all things hazard; what will I not do? what not suffer to raise up my fallen country a second time, and crown her with freedom? As to what will be: if fortune does as she ought to do, you shall all be happy, Let her do as she chooses, I shall be happy. O my friend, how can this little life of ours be so happily filled up, as when our every thought and action, our every word and work are dedicated to the salvation of our country.

Cicero, dear Cicero, again and again do I beseech, do I implore you, to hold up your head and wrestle with difficulties like a man. Do not despond, do not despair. As you can be what you chose, be what you ought; keep watch and ward, set your face and lift your voice against those measures, nor suffer a single poisonous precedent to insinuate itself pregnant with future evil. The boldest and brightest actions of your life will fade in the memories of men, if the tenor of that life be not, to the last, uniform and consistent. The virtue that has done much, lays on itself an obligation to do more; and the benefits we confer on our country, are debts for which the greatest and best are most accountable. That the consular Cicero should counteract Antony, with the same zeal with which the consul Cicero crushed Cataline, is no subject of surprise, for it only preserves the unity of the piece. But if the same Cicero would direct the thunderbolt of his eloquence with such energy and success against others, his former fame would sink in comparison, and the last dazzling act of the illustrious drama, would be crowned with the plaudits of remotest generations! And surely, if ever one was fitted to be the guardian of the common weal, and patron of the people, by the endowments of nature, by high reputation, and by the concurrent opinion of the world, that one is—my friend.

A truce then, Cicero, with your paltry petitions, and memorialize me no longer. Rather retire into the sacred recess of your own great heart, as into that inmost apartment, where are placed our altar and household gods. There, commune with the spirits of your ancestors, and be wraps in the deed

of less degenerate days. Call up your own heroic acts, and let them stand, as it were, embodied before you, nor dare to come out to the world, until you can shew this sentence beaming on your breast:—The people may, the people must be free, if the leaders of the people be ready with head, and heart, and hand, to write, to speak, to act, and to suffer in their cause! X.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

ORATION DELIVERED BEFORE THE
TAMMANY SOCIETY.

(Continued from Page 356.)

SUCH, my friends, are the prominent features of our constitution, such the exalted advantages which render it worthy the confidence, the support, the enthusiastic affection of freemen. It blends dignity with equality, administers justice with temperance, but decision; balances power between the confederate parts of our government; and, in a word, establishes that species of commonwealth which Aristotle has defined as constituting the very partnership of freedom.

While it forms the subject of your pride and glory, be yours the watchful study to preserve its purity unstained, its stability unshaken. It is a barrier over which ambition cannot leap, and must therefore be laid prostrate before usurpation can commence. Insidious attempts will be made to undermine your affection for this palladium of your liberties. You will be told of its weakness, of its want of energy, that it may answer in time of tranquillity, but will never bear the rude assailing of war. Look to silence such insinuations; they are the very soundings of treason; the wily, artful mode, in which she feels her way, before she ventures on the deadly attack.

The energy of a people consists in their warm attachment to their country. Union condenses the popular strength, and enables it, however small, to make an effectual resistance; while disunion saps the fabric of the mighty, and renders it a more certain and extensive ruin.

The small, but firm Amphycyonic confederacy, overthrew the myriads of Persia, and left but a remnant to relate the history of their disasters; while in modern days the gigantic league of European thrones against Gallic domination, through internal jealousy and rivalry were torn and scattered into fragments by the invader.

Do not mistake me; I by no means decry the energy of a vigorous administration; but only assert that the arm of government, unaided by popular attachment, can make but a feeble struggle against a powerful opponent. Its strength consists not in the command it has over the fears but in the willing subjection in which it holds the heart of the citizen. Where existed a more sovereign potentate than the recent emperor of Germany; Absolute in his dominions, he swayed a territory which extended from the North Sea to the confines of the Adriatic: yet one hundred and twenty thousand Frenchmen marched into the very heart of his empire, and from Vienna dictated a peace to twenty-six millions of people.

The deference of the governed to the presiding authority, will always be proportioned to their virtue and intelligence. Perfection in the members, is necessary to perfection in the head. The citizen must be well acquainted with his rights justly to appreciate them; he must know the relative situation in which he is placed fully to feel the importance and obligation of his duties; light must be poured into the dark-

ened intellect before it can become a fit temple for the residence of freedom. Whatever, therefore, tends to corrupt the morals of a virtuous government; and whatever impedes the progress of correct information, as certainly promotes the cause of despotism.

As yet we have no reason to arraign the habits or intelligence of our nation. We are in the vigour of political youth. The legislatures of the different states have patronized science, liberally provided seminaries for our youth, and are diffusing information through all branches of society. The industry of our citizens has become proverbial, no impediments can stay, no dangers retard their enterprise. The hardy woodman, turning his back on a life of inglorious ease, penetrates the wildest solitude, opens its shade to the invigorating sunbeam, and softens its rugged features to the lineaments of beauty. Our commercial keeps pace with our agricultural labours; What ocean is unexplored by our seamen—what coast have they not converted into a market? With the eloquent Burke, we may exclaim, “While we follow them among the tumbling mountains of ice, and behold them penetrating the deepest frozen recesses of Hudson’s Bay and Davis’s Straights, whilst we are looking for them beneath the arctic circle, we hear that they have pierced into the opposite regions of polar cold, that they are at the antipodes, and engaged under the frozen serpent of the South. Falkland Island, which seemed too remote and romantic an object for the grasp of national ambition, is but a stage—a resting place in the progress of their victorious industry; nor is the equinoctial heat more discouraging to them than the accumulated winter of the Poles. We know that while some of them draw

the line and strike the harpoon on the coast of Africa, others run the longitude, and pursue their gigantic game along the coast of Brazil: no sea but what is vexed by their fisheries, no climate but what is witness to their toils.”

The only evil we have to apprehend, is that this immense influx of wealth from foreign sources, may gradually detach the cultivators of the soil, from the pursuits of husbandry, and plunge them into foreign speculations. We are an agricultural people, and if anxious to perpetuate our liberties, the cultivation of the soil must be our primary ambition. The mountain Swiss, while devoted to their pastoral labours enjoyed the purest freedom.

As yet our population, widely scattered, and devoted to agricultural employments must center all their pleasures in rural and domestic enjoyments. But when avidity for gain shall have drawn them from their peaceful habitations; when the cottage, the plough and the farm shall be exchanged for the luxurious city and the crowded mart. Then will the work of depravity secretly commence; sedentary and soul-wearying avocations will succeed those healthful exercises which give elasticity to the mind and vigor to the frame. Tumultuous amusements, with no other charm than their novelty, will supplant the tranquilized pleasures of home, and impair that domestic felicity, the aggregate of which forms the sum and substance of national prosperity. Nor will the evil end here. An inordinate thirst for gain will allay the fervor of patriotism; foreign speculations will produce foreign attachments, and the heart from motives of interest, be induced to indulge sentiments of hostility, at a time when its affections should be most firm and loyal.

These are not vain surmises, nor the dreams of a visionary enthusiast. We have, by a variety of fortuitous circumstances, been recently so placed as to monopolize the commerce of the world. The wealth of Europe for twenty years past has been flowing in upon us in a perennial stream. Our mercantile enterprise has been strained to its utmost bearing, our foreign engagements multiplied, and our immense trading capital been employed in keeping up an indirect, and to us a profitable intercourse between the belligerent nations.

Have we not too much reason to apprehend, that this lucrative employ has in some measure abated those feelings of citizenship, which should play round the heart and animate its warmest pulsations? When called upon by duty to relinquish this source of wealth, was it yielded without a sigh? was it offered up a voluntary sacrifice on the altar of patriotism?—Why then have the constituted authorities been defied? Why that system of fraud and smuggling—new and disgraceful in our annals? Why did a portion of our fellow citizens combine to defeat the salutary purposes of law, and a state legislation fan the unholy flame of opposition?

Do not consider me as wishing to exterminate this foreign enterprise, for a portion of it is necessary to our national prosperity. I would only advocate such wholesome restraint, as will prevent it from wholly engrossing the public attachment, and thus jeopardising interests of a more weighty and important nature.

At the present crisis, when war is demoralizing and destroying the nations, we should as much as possible neutralize our feelings, and at all events preserve them strictly national. Why should we embark in

transatlantic broils? There is nothing of feeling to impel us, there is surely nothing of interest to induce us. The contest there, is in no respect a contest of principle. It is the struggle of tyranny against tyranny; and if we become enlisted, whatever destiny may await those of the eastern hemisphere, to us one thing is certain, that while nothing can be acquired, we place every thing at hazard.

The wars which for twenty years past have agitated the globe, are now merged into one great and decisive conflict between France and Britain. The one wields the sceptre of the land, the other sways the trident of the ocean. So bent are they on destroying each other, and in making every other consideration bend to their individual views, that the rights of allies, friends and neutrals are blended together, and as matters of no importance are equally sacrificed, the law of nations has become a dead letter; and honour and good faith are blotted from the page of political morality.

France with one hand proffered friendship to Holland, and with the other crippled her trade, conscribed her youth, and left her but the skeleton of a once powerful republic.

Switzerland she pronounced her faithful ally—yet in the hour of unsuspecting confidence, overturned her free institutions, converted her territory into an imperial province, and annihilated that independence which ennobled her character.

Prussia she cajoled into non-resistance, while her victorious armies overran the Germanic empire, and then returned to blast the honours of Frederick's descendant on the plains of Jena.

The imperial arm that controuls her destinies is guided by no lilliputian policy. Abject obedience is

a law of his empire, not to be evaded or defied. Regardless of minor considerations, and fearless of consequences, he fixes his eye determinedly on one object, and steadily pursues his purpose. He heeds not the outposts of his enemy, but marks where his force is condensed, and pierces the centre of his strength—the heart from which his life streams are diffused. At present, exalted high above the other dignities of Europe, he stands a planet, round which the neighbouring kings like satellites revolve, by him are balanced, and from him receive their lustre. The continent, from the Baltic to the Mediterranean, pronounces him its lord. The last struggles of opposition he silenced on the Danube—the house of Hapsbourg his chariot wheels have overthrown—the house of Braganza has fled his approach—the Spanish house of Bourbon he has carried into captivity, and Spain lies wholly at his mercy! I repeat, wholly at his mercy—for the present contention there is but a war of skirmishing, speedily to be terminated by an armed host, which shall pour like a torrent through the Pyrenees, and bear massacre and victory to every part of the Peninsula.

Has not Britain also with ceaseless anxiety endeavoured to promote her own views at the expense of her engagements—Has she not evidenced the same illiberal policy, yet prosecuted on a more ignoble scale? when the Archduke struggled for Germany; when Prussia was at her last gasp before Berlin; when Alexander vainly essayed to stem the mighty torrent at Friedland—where had England concentrated her force—where was she vigorously aiding the confederate cause—where was her lion springing upon the foe?—She was engaged far off in prosecuting a trading expedition into Calabria—or for her

private use was capturing sugar islands in the West Indies—or unfurling her banners in South America, with the vain hope of securing by conquest a mart for her commodities. When the gallant Swede was dying in the last ditch at Stralsund, she had spread her canvass and fled the bloody engagement. When Spain strove for existence between Madrid and the Pyrenees, her army either laid quiet in Portugal, or pursued a skulking march, hugging the Atlantic sea board, and avoiding the very sight of an enemy. Even her last expedition, at an almost incredible sacrifice, has achieved but a temporary burial place for her soldiers, and only augmented that ignoble fame, which had been already blazoned by the flames of Denmark, and re-echoed by the groans of its defenceless inhabitants!

No my friends! Honesty and good faith among nations, according to the practice of modern days, is a political farce—an ignis fatuus—bright only in the distance—a bubble, assuming shape and texture, but empty and evanescent in the grasp.

You have none but enemies abroad—form therefore no calculations—repose no confidence—trust to no assurances—rely only on yourselves, and adhere firmly to your union. It is your best fortress, your sure rock of defence; when the rains beat and the floods descend, this alone shall brave the elemental war, and withstand the collected fury of the tempest.

Heed not the groundless assertion so often reiterated, that the undivided prosperity of these states is not a common object; that the eastern and southern sections have discordant interests, and that a line of demarkation must eventually be drawn between them. Our commercial and agricultural concerns are intimately blended, and the

prosperity of each depends upon the strength and stability of the government. Destroy the constitution and you not only stop the prosperous current of trade, but you annihilate the very fountain which enables it to flow. Should such a fatal event ever happen, we bid a long farewell to our greatness—our sun would rapidly descend from his meridian splendor, and clouds and darkness envelope his departing beams. Beyond this period we have nothing to look for but secret distrust, bitter jealousy, open rivalry, and civil war. Our interests severed—from a state of cordial amity we should rapidly pass to the opposite extreme. Contiguity of situation would invite revenge for real or fancied wrongs. Those feelings of citizenship and fond attachment, which now mantle in our bosoms, would be lost in the maze of military contention. The land of our fathers, emancipated by their bravery, and enriched by their toils, would be steeped with the fratricidal blood of their children: morality would fly the unhallowed abode of licentiousness—depravity welcome the scene of congenial horrors, and despotism establish her throne on the ruins of the constitution. The evils attendant on a dissolution of our government, the heart may feel, but the tongue never can adequately describe. Indiscriminate massacre—the despoiling of innocence—the sacking of towns, the conflagration of cities, are evils which may be possibly imagined, but never can be delineated. Strip us of union, and like Sampson we stand shorn of our strength—the Philistines shall come upon us, and our last struggles, like his, shall be the frenzied struggles of despair.

The power of the Grecian states when consolidated, became a thunderbolt in war. Marathon, Salamis

and Platza witnessed the triumph of civic union. When the same states forgot their dependence, and dissolved their confederacy, the wily Philip, by artful management, engaged them in repeated animosities, and Demosthenian eloquence could not defeat his artifices.

Short is the period since the land in which we reside was the seat of oppression—blasted by the very power which should have overspread it with the mantle of protection, and desolated by the sword which should have gleamed only in its defence. The people rose fired with indignation—but they rose as one man—moved by one cause—united by one sentiment, and fixed by one determination. They nobly dared and nobly triumphed, for adversity instead of dividing only cemented their union. Let it not be said that a ten years struggle has purchased for us a transient prosperity—that our revolutionary heroes have perished, and that the fruits of their labours, their exalted hopes have perished and are buried with them. The eyes of the nations are upon us anxiously watching our movements, and nicely balancing our councils.

The advocates of regal and aristocratic institutions decry the materials of our commonwealth, pronounce it a system of visionary experiment, and confidently predict its downfall.

The friends of human liberty behold us with fond solicitude not unmixed with fearful apprehension. They trust to our intelligence but they fear our increasing luxury and wealth.

The persecuted of every clime, cast a wishful eye to this land of promise, and hail it as the only terrestrial haven of rest to life's weary and oppressed sojourner. Liberty, exiled every other lodgment, has

made this her last abiding place, and can only be driven away by the perfidy of those over whom she now extends her fostering pinions.

O give not cause of exultation to your enemies, that your situation is precarious; let not your friends have reason to tremble for your safety. Remember the claims of posterity rest upon you; that, as your fathers have laboured for you, so you are to live and labour for your children. That you are but trustees of the rights you possess, while the inheritance is theirs. Remember, that "the unity of government which constitutes you one people, is a main pillar in the edifice of your real independence—the support of your tranquillity at home, of your peace abroad, of your safety, of your prosperity, of that very liberty which you now so highly prize."

Remember—but what can I add! The brief, but full summary I have last uttered, is not the estimate of that youth and inexperience which now addresses you—it is the well digested wisdom of one who never slept over your interests—whose life wore away in your service—who watched your infancy with paternal solicitude, and carefully matured your strength,—It forms a part of that affectionate farewell he bade you, when, if ambition ever swayed a mind like his, its course was completely run—when he was relinquishing the pride and dignity of office, for the peaceful and private seclusions of domestic life. It is the disinterested counsel of a man who staked his fortune—his life—his all, upon your revolution: who served you faithfully in field and cabinet, and who required no other recompense than the approbation of his own heart, and the esteem of his countrymen. It is the deli-

berate reasoning of a mind strengthened by study, and matured by experience. It is the overflowings of a heart that lingered in its parting moments—that hesitated to leave you, and in its last embraces mingled paternal counsel and tenderness together.

Though cold in his grave, his parting voice yet addresses you! Not with that martial eloquence which once animated you for battle; but with the tremulous fervour of age, the faltering accents of deep and unchangeable affection. It conjures you by every thing estimable—by every thing sacred—by your love for him—your regard for yourselves—your affection for your offspring—to cling inseparably to your union, "to cherish for it a cordial, habitual and immoveable attachment." As you revere his character—as you have entombed him in your hearts—I charge you take warning by his admonitions. Pursue firmly, and without deviation, the path he has pointed out; it is the only one fortified by national security—it is the only one that leads to national glory.

BROTHERS,

The patriotic feelings which the celebration of this anniversary has ever excited; should particularly animate our present festival.

In the lapse of a few weeks we have beheld this eastern part of the union aroused from a state of temporary delusion, rallying with renewed and increased confidence round the constituted authorities, and returning with renovated strength to its first, its only permanent attachment. The repinings of discontent, the murmurs of disaffection, the factious though obscure threats of disunion which had been craftily engendered by designing men, are now no longer heard. Like sun-

ner clouds, they overshadowed us for a moment, and then passed away, lost in the bright, the glorious sunshine that has succeeded.

Republicanism flows from New-
Hampshire to Georgia, in one broad
deep and irresistible stream. Vain
are all attempts to destroy its
strength, divert its course, or ar-
rest the progress of its current.
Stay but its tide for an instant, and
it collects its countless waves, and
beats down the feeble barriers that
oppose its progress. As well might
you attempt to restrain Ontario at
his outlet, or check Niagara in his
thundering torrent.

BROTHERS,

It is your pride and honour, that
in every national vicissitude you
have been unwavering in your ad-
herence to our republican institu-
tions. You have preserved the pure
flame of liberty like a sacred fire
within your walls. Persevere in
this exalted conduct—watch, in-
cessantly watch, with a patriotism
that never droops—with a vigi-
lance that never slumbers over
the welfare of your country. Let
the bands of brotherly affection ever
entwine your hearts, and keep bright
and unimpaired your chain of u-
nion.

In the present address you have
the warm feelings and sentiments
of my heart. May the advice of
youth be matured by your more
weighty judgment; and while life
shall be spared you, may each re-
turning anniversary find you in your
rights, your fortunes, and domes-
tic comforts, living testimonials of
the prosperity and the freedom of
your country.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

A DIALOGUE ON LETTER-WRITING, AND
TRIPLING AWAY TIME.

MR. V— Well, Miss Ardent, you
are always busy, always in too

great a hurry to speak to me;
but as you are good tempered, I
am not afraid to ask you what
you are now going to do, as I am
sure you will tell me.

Miss Ardent. Certainly I will tell
you what I intend to do; but in-
deed I have not quite made up
my mind—I am thinking of writ-
ting to Miss Flimsy.

Mr. V— Have you any business
with her?

Miss Ardent. Business, sir! what
upon earth has either she or I to
do with business, and even if I
had any commission to town, Miss
Flimsy is the last person I should
ask, for she is so forgetful and
helpless that I should be disap-
pointed.

Mr. V— Have you a great af-
fection for her, or any news to tell
her?

Miss Ardent. I like her well en-
ough, but I have not one word
of news to tell her.

Mr. V. I cannot imagine what
you can have to write about, if
you have neither business, expres-
sions of affection, or news to com-
municate.

Miss Ardent. Did you ever
hear of sentimental letters?

Mr. V— I have heard of them,
but I think there is too little si-
milarity in the characters of you
and Miss Flimsy to induce you to
sharpen your faculties against hers,
or to unlock the secret springs of
your heart for her to explore.

Miss Ardent. Indeed sir I have
no great satisfaction in opening my
mind to her, but you know we
must make some use of our ener-
gies, and find some deposite for
our overflowing thoughts, and I
happen to have no other friend
who expresses the same pleasure
at receiving my letters as Miss
Flimsy does.

Mr. V— I suppose she flatters
you; confess to me is not this the

inducement you have to write. While you are writing, you feel your superiority to her; and when she replies, you are still more fully convinced of it.

Miss Ardent. I confess it, but I assure you that the pleasure we obtain from the admiration of persons of inferior intellect, is very transient.

Mr. V.— It must be so, when the praises of the good and judicious are not sufficient to produce durable satisfaction. Nothing will have this effect but the consciousness of having daily and hourly filled our allotted duties. The praises of men are but breath which intoxicates and passes away; neither can any human being judge of our motives for doing the best actions.

Miss Ardent. I will not make a display of my talents by writing to Miss Ffinsy, but I must do something; I cannot be idle.

Mr. V.— I would by no means have you idle; but I would have you rather to sit still, or to take a solitary walk, than to endeavour to make a display of your genius. As a sovereign remedy for the listlessness, the discontent, and the restlessness which alternately are the diseases of youth (particularly those who have a little more talents or animation than usual) I prescribe for you some settled occupation, to which you *may* at any time have recourse, and to which you *must* pay very frequent attention; this will prove an object whereon you may employ all your faculties; it will not chill or wither the blooming ardour of youth; your best sentiments may still be awake, and a solidity and permanence render all your thoughts and feelings more valuable, and in reality more beautiful.

Miss Ardent. I shall certainly be guided by your advice. Circum-

stances you know have occurred which have put it in my power to do with myself as I pleased, and though my liberty and leisure have been often envied, yet they have been a torment to myself, and kept me in a perpetual chase after unreal pleasures. Your life and actions have been such as to give you authority to advise all triflers like me.

Mr. V.— I can so far speak from experience that I have never known happiness except where my conscience told me I was useful.

A.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

A DIALOGUE ON A BOARDING-SCHOOL EDUCATION.

MRS. D. Maria is now fourteen, and I think it is high time to finish her education. What boarding school do you prefer?

Mrs. E. Indeed I am a very inadequate judge of boarding-schools, as I am not partial to any of them, nor indeed to that mode of either beginning or finishing education. I would advise you to keep Maria at home.

Mrs. D. I don't think that girls ever get that polish at home, which governesses used to the business of education can give them, except indeed they have one equally accomplished at home, which I could not afford; and even in that case they cannot see so much of fashionable life as at school.

Mrs. E. Perhaps not so much artificial life, which I think is quite an advantage to them.

Mrs. D. Would you not have your daughter taught any of those accomplishments which embellish her natural endowments, and may prove a means of advancing her in life?

Mrs. E. Any artificial accomplishment which I could not teach her myself, nor afford to pay a person to come to the house to teach

her, I would rather she was without. It is more than probable that such embellishments might prove a means of making her disgusted with the situation most consistent with her station and consequently most conducive to her happiness. Nor do I consider that such an education would unfit a woman for mixing in the highest ranks of society, if such be her destination. She has every opportunity of storing her mind with useful and even elegant knowledge, which fits her to converse in any company; but she cannot be at balls, &c. or at least she cannot take an active part in them. As to the little ceremonies which are almost necessary in high life, they are easily acquired, and an unaffected person need never feel awkward at being ignorant of them.

Mrs. D. I must have my daughter taught to dance; a girl who does not know how to dance, can never walk either with ease or elegance.

Mrs. E. She may not know how to frisk and curtsy before a large company with grace, but in the careless plays of children, I have often admired their graceful movements. Some would say a boarding-school regimen of back boards, and steel collars was necessary to render the human figure erect; but I am persuaded that children generally stoop and twist by the art which is used by mothers and nurses to keep them straight; they are so trammelled and tightened that they endeavour to twist from one side to the other to get relief from the pressure of their harness. We don't often see boys stoop or be crooked, and the country girls are almost always straight, because their clothes are loose, and the motions necessary for labour or for active amusement must be free.

Mrs. D. Independently of dancing, Maria must be taught drawing, and various other accomplishments, which are best procured at school. I do not think myself capable of giving her even a common education. I could not afford to let her stay more than a year at school; therefore, I put off sending her till this time, that she is of an age to benefit more from it, than when she was a mere child.

Mrs. E. I beg leave to differ from you on that point, for I think a mother's eye is now more necessary than ever, and the slight, paltry system of boarding-school education is likely to be more hurtful than ever. Maria will probably return to you disgusted with every plain thing she sees, and she is now of an age to acquire knowledge for the sake of itself, not merely because she *must* do so. If any thing useful can be made of girls' boarding-schools, I think it is only to send young children to, because they are more likely to learn any thing by applying themselves at regular times than in the irregular manner they are often taught at home. I cannot think that there is any woman of common sense who is incapable of teaching her daughter all that is necessary to be known. Of all the animal creation, why should our species alone be incapable of rearing their young, or why should we alone be deformed by the excess of art?

Mrs. D. Will you allow that many women have not leisure to educate their children?

Mrs. E. There may be instances of human concerns being so perverted from their proper course, that a woman finds it impossible to attend to her first duty; but such instances are not so numerous as is imagined. If every person not only expended money according to their income, but time, they would generally find leisure to do their duty. A

woman of small fortune must give entertainments, she cannot afford to pay people to make preparations; therefore while she is employed in such occupations, her children run into mischief, if they are not either sent to nurse, or to school: this woman must also return visits, which practice is as bad or worse for her family. Another woman devotes her time to the fine arts, or to literary pursuits, while her children are in the same danger. We generally see that unnecessary occupations consume more time than positive business; a great deal of which can be done in the midst of tractable chil-

dren, and girls soon learn to assist their mother.

Mrs. D. I am so perplexed with the charge of one child, that I often wonder how people do who have a great many children.

Mrs. E. It is a vulgar saying, "the hen that can scratch for one, can scratch for ten;" and it is generally observed that many children are as easily managed as one, and in some cases, perhaps, more so; this is one plea used in favour of boarding-schools, because more system is established in them for the necessary well government of the family.

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BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF DISTINGUISHED PERSONS.

MEMOIR OF THE REV. GEORGE WALKER.

Continued from p. 363, No. XXVIII.

IN 1780, Mr. Burke brought forward his celebrated motion for a reform in the public expenditure. As a prelude to this, petitions had been presented from Yorkshire and other counties in support of this measure. Mr. Walker on this occasion exerted himself with considerable effect in procuring one from the county of Nottingham. He drew up the petition, and concluded his speech on the occasion, in the following energetic words:

"Go on then, ye people of England, in the course in which ye have set out, and turn not to the right, or to the left, for all the shadowy phantoms, which those who wish you no speed may dress up to beguile or awe you. As from you originated the good work, on your constancy and firmness entirely depends the bringing it to a happy issue, the obtaining all your wishes. Every art, every sophistry, every false alarm, and hypocritical jealousy will be

tried to disunite, to unman you; but if you suffer yourselves to be overreached, to be intimidated, you have made your last attempt for your country, for yourselves, and for your children; and you will fall below the level of other slaves; the character of Englishmen, the very character of men will not be left you. But I look for better things. I see no room for fear, for any thing but the most reviving, animating hope. The line of the people's sufferance is past, and ministerial rapacity and oppression shrink before you. For as there is no power which ought, so there is no power which can withstand you, if you be not wanting to yourselves. See! the tide is turned, the ebb of Britain is over; and fair integrity: and generous, unbought patriotism; and decent, manly liberty; and all your truest glory are revisiting this favoured island. Welcome them, seize them, hold them; and may the being, who is propitious to honest and good designs, bless the British people with all success!"

The next public question, that engaged his attention, was the subject of parliamentary reform. The unconstitutional influence of the minister had been so clearly evinced in the prolongation of the war contrary to the general sentiment of the country, that it became apparent even to the most prejudiced observer, that the house of commons was no longer the organ of the national voice, while the termination of those hostilities, which had been so obstinately persevered in by one parliament, having been effected upon the meeting of a new one, most forcibly evinced the impolicy of continuing for so long a period a trust that could not subsequently be revoked, and over which little or no controul could be exercised. These glaring defects, to which with justice all the calamities of the country were attributed, had excited the general attention to the correction of those abuses in the representation of the people, which, by destroying the independence of parliament, and detaching its interests from that of the people, had rendered it a mere passive instrument in the hand of the minister. If the spirit which was manifested on this occasion, and which contributed to that celebrated decision of the house, that the power of the crown had increased, was increasing, and ought to be diminished, had received that encouragement from above, to which its laudable and patriotic tendency entitled it, it might ultimately have led to such a reformation of public affairs, as every friend to the future happiness and prosperity of his country would have rejoiced in; but has been the misfortune of the present reign, to have been uniformly marked by an alienation from those enlarged and liberal principles, which should characterize the administration of a free country: thus

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while it met with every discouragement from government, there was not sufficient zeal and unanimity in the people, to give that necessary degree of confidence and authority to their leaders, to enable them to contend with so formidable an opposition, backed as it was by those seducing applications to the personal interests, the ambition, and the avarice of individuals. Year after year marked some flagrant dereliction of principle on the part of their leaders, till at length the all-corrupting influence of the court had so thinned the ranks of the reformers, that the virtuous few who remained could only lament the failure of their well meant efforts, and the prospect of those evils, which such selfish and illiberal principles of government necessarily produce.

Of the various meetings which were summoned throughout the kingdom for the furtherance of this object, there were few so important either in respect of the number or the rank of the individuals who attended, as that which assembled at Mansfield on the 28th of October 1782.

On being requested by several who attended the meeting to deliver his sentiments on the occasion, Mr. Walker rose and made a long speech replete with sound constitutional principles.

This speech excited the strongest marks of approbation from the meeting. Among those who expressed themselves most particularly gratified was that illustrious patriot the late sir George Saville.

The present duke of Norfolk also thanked him in the name of the meeting. So favourable an introduction to the notice of the great, accompanied by such flattering testimonies of their approbation; might have endangered the humility of a poor minister of the gospel, and excited expectations incompatible

with the purity of his motives. If private advantage had been the actuating principle of his conduct, a field was now open to him, which he might have cultivated with success, and where his talents could scarcely have failed of reaping a reward: but he was instigated by other motives than those of personal emolument: at a time which he thought required the exertions of every virtuous citizen, he stepped forward to discharge his duty to his country; and, satisfied with this, he returned to the private walk of his profession, without any exertion to prolong his acquaintance with the great, though without retiring from their proffered civilities.

Subsequent meetings both of the town and county were held for the purpose of furthering this object; and in all of these his services were exerted with great advantage to the cause he espoused. In the year 1785, another general meeting of the county was summoned, where, in support of the petition which he drew up for the occasion, he delivered one of the most animated and energetic defences of the measure, that perhaps ever was made.

He began with endeavouring to restore the harmony of the meeting, which had been something endangered by one gentleman indulging the warmth of the moment, and expressing more than he probably intended, and by other gentlemen apprehending too much from even an indirect opposition to a measure, in which their hearts were so honestly concerned. He was persuaded, that they agreed in wishing well to the general object that was in view, though they might differ in smaller matters, which, whether right or wrong, would not in all probability be even contemplated by the legislature, and therefore, however objects of private speculation, could

not wisely be introduced into public debate. But with respect to the general question, he thought he could clearly collect, that it met all their minds; that the broad face of wisdom, of justice, and of utility, which it presented, enforced approbation or submission from all. It seemed to be conceded by all, that their representative body was not what it ought to be; and that the national security, which a true representation promises, must be abandoned to despair, if its constitutional character were not recovered, if some salutary reform were not effected in this exceedingly degenerated and corrupted body. There was a shamefacedness in the opponents of a parliamentary reform, a shrinking from the question, which induced a suspicion, that their voice was at variance with their heart, or a secret conviction, that no arguments of truth, of right, of fitness, or of wisdom, could be adduced to give a colour to their opposition. The reform, which the petition prayed for, was constitutional, it was wise, it was necessary. In vindicating its claim to a constitutional right, he repeated in a concise manner that historic view of our constitution, which he had stated at large to the county when it was last assembled at Massfield. To this he added, that the same clear truth was to be inferred from the very theory of our constitution, as it was conceived by every one, by foreigners as well as natives. No one ever expressed his idea of it in other terms, than that of a coalescence of three distinct estates for a common good. The only three civil orders of men, which the idea or experience of government can give birth to, and which separately a unitedly stamps a character on every government that man has known were all adopted by the excellent constitution of these kingdoms, the

that might not safely be intrusted to one or two of the three, might be secured by the union of all, that they might form a well-balanced repository of that supreme power, which every government must somewhere repose. This, whether in the same terms or no, is the idea which has ever been entertained of the British government, which every writer on the subject has expressed; it is the common notion of us all, for which we might equally appeal to the enemies as to the friends of the petition. But the truth and essence of this fine idea of the British government was gone, if one of these three independent orders of the state were utterly swallowed up by one or both of the remaining two. There ought to be a common sense, a decent consistency in our notions, whatever they be; yet men and Britons can so far abandon all sense and meaning, as to talk with rapine of the unrivalled form of their government, yet acknowledge as an uncontested fact, that one of the three orders, the independency of which enters into the very theory of this government, is, as to all its efficacy and power, created and controlled by the other two. Either maintain, that the government of these kingdoms is wisely reduced from three orders to two, or reassert the independence of that house of commons, which was meant to originate from us, and to be actuated by our soul. In the true spirit and virtue of our constitution, we were designed to be freemen; abandoned to the will of the other two orders of the state, we must descend with the other nations of the earth to the condition of slaves; for it is not in human wisdom to provide for freedom, when all power is surrendered to those higher ranks of life, whom virtue sooner quits, and who are not formed to sympathize

with the degraded mass of the community

In maintenance of the same constitutional right, be appealed to the constitutional language of these kingdoms. The meaning of established terms, early adopted by, and for ever preserved in the course of any government, exhibited the most decisive proofs of the original spirit and intention of its constitution. King, Lords, and Commons, meant three separate unmixed political orders, or meant nothing that answered to the expressions. These terms never meant, nor will be maintained at this day to mean, that the commons are comprehended in the king, are comprehended in the lords, or are comprehended in the king and lords together. We know the personages designed by king and lords, and do we not know ourselves, under the designation of a term borrowed from our own rank of life? Does the unvaried language of our government for ever instruct us whom the commons in parliament were designed to represent, from whom they were to originate, and for whom specially to act; and shall we submit ourselves to believe, that our proper representation can proceed from the lords, that the commons of England are to be found in the absolute creatures of the king and lords, nominated by their voice, and obedient to their will? If the constitution be changed, and it be fit that it should continue to be changed, let the language be changed also; let not the abused commonalty be insulted with the mockery of names and sounds, which preserve only the painful remembrance of what they have lost, which embitter the sense of their ruined state, by continually holding up the beautiful picture of what they were designed to be, and what even at this moment, unless by their own

abandonment, they may recover themselves to. If it must not be, that by our true and proper representatives we are in future to have an equal voice in the legislative body of these kingdoms, let the style as well as the existence of the commons be abandoned; let it be avowed and declared, that the king and lords devise laws, dispose of life and liberty, and give and grant to whatever extent the public money — This is the plain naked truth: the king and lords do of their own absolute pleasure make, and by their own absolute pleasure govern a vast majority of the commons' house in parliament, and they who make and rule the majority make and rule the whole. Let then the man, who sets his face against the manly claim of the people's usurped rights, come forward, and say that these things are not; or let him not gather himself up in affected anger, when he is told, that with the confessed knowledge of departed rights, he is willing to abandon them to the destroyer, and is active only in the cause of the destroyer; in resisting the well meant efforts of those, who, in the revival of the true spirit of the constitution, still hope to save their falling country. No! They see not the infamy and ruin of their own conduct; and because names and forms are still suffered to remain, they believe, that the glorious constitution of their ancestors still exists in all its wise and virtuous provision for the public good. These names and these forms ought to be documents and proofs to them, that a great and dangerous corruption has taken place; they ought even to the commonest mind to hold up a most alarming truth. He observed it to be almost unworthy of children to be amused and soothed with the illusion of a mere name or form, when the reality was gone; it would

not be a greater folly to look for the man in his grave, because with his former name he was committed thereto. But he added as a serious fact, that the more liberal is any government, the more terrible are the consequences of its corruption, and that tyranny never appears in so awful a form, as when it comes in the shape and semblance of a once free constitution. A naked and undisguised despotism must observe some terms with human nature, but, under the venerable sanction of liberty, it abandons itself to every caprice and excess. Thus the form of the Roman republic was preserved by the Roman emperors, but the corruption of it under this form degenerated into the most horrid and wanton tyranny, that man ever submitted to.

From this evidence of a constitutional spirit in the reform, Mr. Walker passed to the expediency and necessity of it. It were absurd to look for any of the wise and salutary effects of a constitution, unless from the reality of those very provisions, which constituted all that was wise and salutary in its plan. The wisdom and health of our constitution was not to be found in the existence of a king, not in that of lords, not in that of commons singly and separately, but in the well-tempered mixture of the regal, the aristocratic, and the popular power. But if one of these essential parts have passed into a mere nullity, the ground of dependence is vanished, and with it all the hope and possibility of the singular blessings, which so singular a constitution promised. It was not from any supernatural wisdom in our rude and unlettered ancestors, that a form of government originated, which mocked all the wisdom and policy of the Greeks and Romans. It flowed from their very simplicity, from their knowing

essential distinction of man from man, from an honest adherence to this single principle, an equality of rights in all whom they acknowledged as freemen, an equal claim of law, of liberty, of property, and life.—And he observed as a general rule, that one honest principle is worth all the mysterious policy and cunning of the world, and will ever conduct to more true wisdom and solid good. In the separation of a king and lords they intended a provision for public utility, but in the representatives of themselves, in the reserving to this representative body a controlling power in all the deliberations of the sovereign legislature, they contemplated the essence and the security of what was dear to themselves. What has preserved and transmitted this blessing to us can alone preserve and transmit it to our posterity. If the commons of England are not truly and honestly represented, the third estate is a mere name, and the popular liberty is the mere sufferance of the day; it rests not, as with our manly ancestors, on the solid security of holding it in our hands. If evil had not already originated from this degeneracy of our original constitution, yet, when the security is gone, evil must infallibly ensue; and on the mere ground of prevention, it would at any moment be wise and worthy of the people to recover the government to that state, for which the petition prays.

But to the plea of expediency is added the pressing one of necessity. The nation is bowing under the heaviest of ills, that a people can be conceived to exist under, and all proceeding from the very corruption of the representative body, which the petition deploras. These have been amply and pathetically stated by Major Cartwright, and therefore need not be again repeated.

But there is nothing wonderful in these evils; the wonder is, that they have not sooner made their appearance. When the proper guardian is removed from his trust, it were folly to look for its preservation.—If the crown united with its confederate lords be represented by a great majority in the pretended house of commons, is it any wonder, that ministerial folly and wickedness should drive the nation to the pit? They who command all are not your agents, they receive no commission from you, they laugh at the idea of being accountable to you. They know their proper master, and their master's pleasure they will do. Sure of being supported by the whole legislative body, the minister is emboldened to every attempt; flagitiousness springs out of security. But unless the people bow their necks to this abuse, to meet in stupid silence whatever of remaining ruin another profligate administration may bring upon them; no other path is left for them, than what the petition points out: a manly reassertion of their constitutional rights, and the giving motion and efficacy to those means, which may render the house of commons again the true representative and the faithful guardian of the nation. It is big with horror but to think of the precarious ground, on which at every moment the existence of a free people rests. Divide the representative body into three parts; the people have not the appointment of so much as one of these parts. If they who create the other two should please to combine, and the growing prostitution of the higher ranks gives too much credibility to such a supposition, one blow might decide our fate, and we might sink in an instant into servitude, and oppression. We have no constitutional protector existing, which could

resist and avert the awful ruin.—What a prospect does the whole history of a late administration present! With what force does it bring home to the most stupid and obstinate the necessity of an instant reform! In the present moment a reform may save; another experiment like to what has past will place salvation out of the reach of all reform.

He concluded with some observations on the septennial act. He asserted it to be the mere creature of meditated corruption, and that from the moment of its violent birth, corruption has walked over the face of this country like a fiend of hell. Truth and fact scorn the insulting plea of necessity, of a tender regard to the protestant religion, to the house of Hanover. Had the battles of Preston and Sheriff Moir not been fought before this daring power was usurped, the framers of the septennial act might have been believed to have acted from a patriotic motive. But when the national fears were blown over, when the friends of Rome and the pretender were humbled to the dust, only then, in the moment of triumphant security, was this monster of corruption brought forth. The continuance of septennial parliaments, to this day is a demonstration of the principle, from which they proceeded.

If parliament were actually in the people's nomination, this act would alone suffice to vitiate parliament, and estrange it from the people.—In such a length of time they forget their constituents, think themselves independent, become self-willed, are worth a purchase which no ordinary form of virtue can resist, and in the hope and confidence of this the minister can dare to apply the national purse to their seducement. These are not dreams and specula-

tions, they are the mere history of the progress of the septennial act; and while that continues, it is almost against human nature to secure a virtuous representation;—while the horror of such a precedent, the thought that the usurpation of seven years may sanctify the usurpation of life, or of inheritance, is enough to make every honest man tremble. On every view, therefore, he gave his assent to the petition.

About the year 1787, a variety of circumstances concurred, to favour an application to the legislature for a repeal of the corporation and test acts; and very strenuous exertions were made on the part of the whole dissenting interest of the kingdom, to effect a liberation from the pains and disabilities of those disgraceful and vexatious statutes. As this was a subject in which Mr. Walker felt himself more immediately interested, he exerted himself, as well on the ground of individual suffering as of abstract principle, with great zeal and assiduity. The idea of this application originated at a meeting of deputies from the different congregations in London and its vicinity, in January 1787, in consequence of which a motion was made without success, though supported with extraordinary ability by Mr. Beaufoy, Mr. Fox, and others. On this occasion it was objected, that the application was made by the dissenters of the metropolis only, without the co-operation of their brethren in the country, who were stated to be generally indifferent to the success of the measure. To obviate this, and at the same time to give additional weight and respectability to their application, the London committee thought proper to seek the support of their friends in the country; in which they met with great success. But it was not till the plan of union proposed by the

Birmingham committee, in October 1789, was generally adopted, that they felt themselves entitled to declare that they acted in the name and by the authority of the whole body of dissenters throughout the kingdom.—The object of this plan was to form a well connected union of the dissenters throughout England, by a chain of intercourse and communion, advancing in order through successive gradations to a representation of the whole body in a general or national meeting at London. The adoption of this was strongly enforced by Mr. Walker, both in his individual capacity, and as the chair-

man of the associated dissenters of Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, and part of Yorkshire. For this purpose he addressed a letter to a general meeting at Leicester, in December 1789, which, on account of the able manner in which it enforced the necessity of the proposed union, was afterward printed by different committees, generally circulated through the kingdom, and deemed to have contributed in no small degree to the adoption of that regularly organized system of action, which the plan contemplated.

(To be continued.)

REVIEW OF NEW PUBLICATIONS.

Brief Observations on the Address to his Majesty, proposed by Earl Grey in the House of Lords, 13th June, 1810, by William Roscoe, Esq.—Liverpool printed, 1810. 44 p.p.

IT requires a considerable degree of civil courage, a quality of the first importance in perilous and bad times, to oppose the current of public opinion running in a wrong direction, and undauntedly to resist the “ardor civium prava jubentium.” We are pleased to see a writer of the eminence to which the historian of Lorenzo De Medici, and Leo X. is justly entitled, come forward once more, after two former pamphlets on a similar subject, in the laudable attempt to disabuse popular error, and to publish truths that are displeasing, because they contravene hastily established but firmly rooted prejudices, and we willingly embrace the opportunity of endeavouring to give greater publicity to this pamphlet, as corroborating sentiments which have so repeatedly appeared in our pages, on the bad policy of continuing the war.

The English nation never relinquish their fondness for war, until they are forced by severe lessons learned in the rugged school of adversity, to surrender their propensity for this desperate game. To prove this fondness for war to be a prevailing favourite opinion in the English public, we have only to look back to the events of the present reign. The peace of 1763 was unpopular, and raised a great outcry against the makers of it. However just was the odium against Lord Bute on account of his favouritism and his tory principles of arbitrary power, probably the accusations against him for making the peace were unfounded, and only proved that war was better liked by the nation than peace. A long series of aggressions on the part of a ministry of despotic high prerogative principles, in which however, let us remember they were supported by a large majority, both in and out of parliament, ended in the American war. Martial ardour, as far as coolly supplying the means, was now in full force, till

want of success raised a popular clamour, which forced lord North to resign, and a peace was made; yet the Marquis of Lansdowne became unpopular for making this very peace which had been urgently demanded by the necessities of the nation, but which was very generally condemned, as soon as the pressure of these difficulties were a little removed. In 1793, the nation again precipitated itself into war, of which we are still partaking in the horrors, and we may recollect that the short peace of 1801, was far from giving general satisfaction. In the midst of this general delusion, a few have through every period raised their voices for peace, but the noisy clamour of the many has been for war. To what cause are we to attribute this predilection for war? Not to patriotism in its enlarged and comprehensive sense, not to generous, ardent feeling; but to a cold calculating policy, which in the American contest sought to throw a share of the public burdens on the Americans, while in the present contest some were desirous to be revenged by rising on the ruins of an old rival, and others wished, from an enmity to freedom, to assist to strangle in its cradle, alas! too successfully, the new-born liberty of France. To these sordid motives, which partake rather of a public nature, must be added the private mercenary views of a large portion of the public; who, as contractors, lean-jobbers, officers in the army and navy, barrack-masters, and a long train of others, whose occupation in one shape or another, like Othello's, is war, were interested in its continuance. This powerful phalanx is still further increased by their numerous relatives and connections, as so many families had some of their members in a situation to profit by

the war, in some shape or another. When all these things are taken into consideration, the rage for war does not appear very difficult to be accounted for; on principles, which many would not wish to avow, but which do not arise from the most honorable motives, or the best feelings of our nature.

Under a conviction of this melancholy truth, that war is still popular with the majority, and that this error is unhappily undermining the foundations of public and private virtue, and rapidly preparing the way for distresses greater than those we have yet experienced, let us proceed to the review before us, by allowing the author to open the subject in his own words—

“On the 13th of June, 1810, Earl Grey moved, in the house of Lords, an address to his majesty, in which he proposed—

“To state to his majesty, that we cannot doubt his majesty's readiness to embrace the first opportunity of concluding a peace on just and reasonable terms; but, that looking to the nature of the contest in which we are engaged; to the power of France, now unhappily established over the greater part of Europe; and to the spirit and character of the government of that country: we are convinced that this event so anxiously desired by his majesty and his loyal people, will be best promoted, by proving to the world, that while his majesty is actuated by the most just and moderate views, we possess the means of permanently supporting the honour and independence of our country, against every species of attack by which the enemy may hope to assail them.

“That for this purpose it is indispensably necessary, that his majesty's government should henceforth adopt a wise and systematic policy, regulated not only by a just ex-

nate of our present difficulties, but by a prudent foresight of the probable exigencies of a *protracted warfare*."

"An amendment was moved by Lord Stanhope, purporting, that the house would pledge themselves to maintain the law of the land, and to support the liberties of the people, and the trial by jury; which was supported by the Duke of Norfolk, the Earl of Suffolk, and Lord Erskine,—but was negatived; upon which those noblemen immediately left the house. The motion for the address was then proposed, and negatived by a majority of 134 peers, against 72.

"Thus then, it appears, that an address, purporting in substance, to be a recommendation to his majesty to continue the present war, was supported by 72 peers in opposition to administration, and was negatived by 134 peers, who are friendly to administration.

"It will not, however, be supposed, that the difference of opinion between their lordships arose on the passages now quoted. That the present administration are at least as ready to carry on the war as their political opponents, cannot be doubted; and they must have perceived with great satisfaction, that on this important subject, there is now *no opposition of party*, but that the expediency of continuing the war is generally and unequivocally acknowledged."

Our author proceeds to show that there is no obstacle to peace from the want of reliance on the faith of our opponent in the treaties we may form with him.

"If, however, any doubts could remain as to the purport of the proposed address, they would be speedily removed by adverting to the arguments used by the noble lord in its support. From these we

learn,—and not without a considerable portion both of surprize and concern, that his lordship is now of opinion, that 'we are reduced to the dilemma, either that the attempt on our part to open the door to a negotiation, *would not conduce to the attainment of our object*; or, that if that object was attainable, *it would be unaccompanied with those essential securities which alone could render it really valuable*.'—'That when we consider that he who now sits exulting over the spoils of prostrate Europe, is checked in his hopes of universal dominion, and retarded in his progress to a more extended despotism, by the power, resistance, and resources of this country alone, it is impossible not to believe him impelled by all those influences which sway the human heart, to look to the overthrow and destruction of Great Britain, as his fixed, his most desirable object; as that in which all his passions are concentrated, and to which all his designs are directed. This object is the sole aim of his policy, WHETHER IN WAR OR IN PEACE. To the latter, whenever our enemy may incline to make it, we must only look as to A PERIOD DURING WHICH HE MAY WITH MORE SECURITY PURSUE HIS PLANS AGAINST THE FREEDOM, INDEPENDENCE, AND EXISTENCE OF THIS COUNTRY."

"The question between the advocates of the war, and the friends of peace, is now fairly at issue. On the facts and circumstances on which their respective opinions are founded, they are perfectly agreed. The immense accession of power which our enemy has acquired in the course of the war, and the increasing difficulty of providing our own resources, are subjects not less expatiated upon by the promoters of the war, than by those who wish for its termination: but on this occasion, as on

many others, from the same premises, different persons have drawn different results. Those who are favourable to the continuance of the war, are of opinion that the successes of Bonaparte have given him so decided a superiority over us, that there can be no safety, *either in peace or war*, whilst he retains his power; and that it is more advisable to devote the remainder of our strength to the possibility of overturning him, than to consent to a reconciliation on any terms that can be proposed. Undoubtedly *if that crisis be now arrived*; if our enemies be so far aggrandized, and this country so far reduced by the present contest, that a pacification can only seal our destiny, and consign us over to slavery, dishonour, and contempt, it would be worse than folly, it would be the most detestable wickedness, not to expend the last drop of our blood, rather than submit to such a disgrace. Fortunately however for us all, *this alarming period is not yet arrived*; and it is precisely to prevent its arrival, that these considerations are offered to the public mind. That the first promoters and subsequent conductors of the war have done much to bring on such a crisis, must be admitted; but there are in this country powers of resistance which no misconduct of ministers can impair; energies which no concurrence of exterior circumstances can destroy; which depend not on the prosperity, or the disorder of financial arrangements, but on the limbs and strength, on the hearts and minds of a people determined to be free. Whilst, therefore, the friends of peace perceive, in its fullest extent, the additional power acquired by our enemy in the course of the war, they by no means admit that his superiority is so great and so decisive, as to render the establish-

ment of peace, upon safe and honourable terms, an event beyond all just and reasonable expectation. What may be the consequence, *if the same steps which have hitherto been pursued, should be persevered in to a further extent*, they cannot indeed foresee; but they entertain not a doubt that, *under the present circumstances*, a reconciliation might be effected, which should not only be consistent with the honour and interests of this country, but should place her beyond the apprehension of danger from any power on earth. In looking to the strength and resources of France, they are not so appalled as to be forgetful of their own. If it be true, that France has obtained the ascendancy over continental Europe, it is equally true, that on the ocean this country is unrivalled. If the revenues of France, extracted from her extended population, be great, those of this country, which are supported not only by an active and industrious people, but by an inexhaustible foreign trade, are also great, and of a nature at least equally permanent. If a season of peace would give facilities to the further power and aggrandizement of France, it would afford them in a much greater degree to this country, which, from the excellence of her manufactures, the extent of her mercantile capital, and the incalculable superiority of her fleets, is ready to enter on that career of national prosperity for which France is yet unprepared. Does it then follow, as an inevitable consequence, that because we are unable to overthrow the power of France, we are incompetent to defend ourselves from any attack which France may think proper to direct against us? or shall we be so much alarmed

at our present circumstances, as to suppose there is no safety but in desperation?

"Nor must it be understood that the depressing representations made respecting the condition and resources of this country, are to be admitted in an unqualified and unlimited sense. It is only when we contemplate the prosecution of the war, that we can be said to feel the insufficiency of our resources, or the difficulties of our situation. It is the immense expenditure of our military and naval establishments—the preparation of formidable and expensive expeditions—the profuse and wanton manner in which the wealth of the nation is unavoidably expended and misapplied during a state of warfare, that occasion this disproportion between our wants and our supplies.

"To every object of our own protection—to every domestic improvement, and even to the liquidation of our immense incumbrances, the revenues of the country are abundantly sufficient. WE ARE STRONG FOR PEACE, BUT WEAK FOR WAR; COMPETENT TO DEFEND OURSELVES FROM EVERY ATTACK THAT CAN BE MADE AGAINST US; BUT INCOMPETENT TO CHANGE THE DESTINY OF EUROPE, OR TO DRAG ITS PRESENT RULER FROM HIS IMPERIAL HEIGHT.

What, then, may we be allowed to ask, are the real and solid objections to a pacification? Is there any clear and definite object for which we are now to continue the war? are we still to attempt the *restoration of the house of Bourbon*? or to insist upon *indemnity for the past, and security for the future*? Are apprehensions still entertained, that, in case of a peace, our countrymen will throng in crowds to Paris, and bring back with them those pernicious principles of licentious liberty, which for so many years were our aversion and

our dread? Amidst all our calamities, we have at least lived to see that once fertile pretext for animosity and bloodshed exploded. The *pestilential nuisance*, which so imminently threatened our safety, is effectually abated; the *filthy night-cellar*, full only of *thieves, murderers, and house-breakers*, is cleansed; the *infamous brothel*, in the neighbourhood of which no decent person could think of living, is purified; and in the place of these, we find as regular an edifice, as well barred, bolted, and secured, and inhabited by persons who conduct themselves in as orderly a manner, and with as much gravity and solemnity, as any in Europe. But if these ancient causes of dissension be removed, they have been replaced by others, whose influence on the community appears to be still more extensive; till at length, *the very situation into which we are brought by the war, is alleged as the most powerful reason for its continuance.*

For the performance of them we rely not on the faith of our enemy, but on our own strength; not on his voluntary performance of them, but on our ability to enforce them; not on his forbearance and moderation, but on our own vigilance and promptitude. To assent to any treaty which would disqualify us from these measures, and where we had to trust merely to the assurances and promises of our adversaries, would be to betray the cause of our country.

"Is it then possible to suppose that under the guarantee of such a treaty, where the deviation from it by one party would give to the other the right of immediate interference, and justify a renewal of hostilities, preparations could be made by France, which could enable her, in a season of peace, and during the confidence of amity, to

attempt the invasion of this country? Granting to Lord Grey, that it is the *sole object of the French ruler, whether in peace or war*, to accomplish the subjugation of these realms, are we, in consequence of a pacification, to sit tranquilly by, and see preparations made, which according to all reasonable conjecture, can have no other object in view than our ultimate destruction? Is his lordship to be informed that in all periods and by every rule of international law, the hostile preparations of a neighbouring state justify enquiries and precautions on the part of others, and that the present case differs in no respect from those which have before occurred, and must always occur, as long as independent nations have an existence. In the relative situation of Great Britain and France, this has been recently exemplified. Among the causes for a renewal of hostilities assigned by his majesty's ministers in the year 1803, it was alleged that France was making preparations in the ports of Holland for an invasion of this country, and this assertion, sanctioned by the highest authority, produced upon the people at large, that alarm and abhorrence which the treacherous nature of such conduct could not fail to inspire, and contributed in an eminent degree, not only to reconcile them to fresh sacrifices, but to render them eager for the prosecution of the war. Scarcely, however, had hostilities begun, when it was discovered that this circumstance, which, if it had really existed, was a just and warrantable ground of war, was founded in error or misrepresentation, and that during a period of two years, not one step had been taken by our enemies, although they were then under the authority of the very man who is still at the head of their government, to make preparations for

that invasion which it seems we so greatly dread."

In the following extract, when the author sets forth the real dangers of war, and the imaginary dangers of peace, we fully concur with him, that the former are truly formidable, yet it seems probable, that he does not go far enough in appreciating the risques which attend protracted warfare, and that he might with great propriety, have heightened the picture of our perilous situation.

"Fear has, however, no bounds, and national fear acts as an epidemic. It may therefore, perhaps, be said, that although no avowed preparations may, during a state of peace, be made by France for the destruction of this country, yet that such a state will afford our enemies an opportunity of building a navy, in the various ports now under their authority, to be ready for effecting their purpose in case of a rupture, the causes of which are always in the power of either party. This, however is, in fact, only a recurrence to the former argument, and consequently admits of a similar reply. Ships cannot be built, and navies formed in secret; and if such preparations were made, beyond the extent which the exigencies of a country in a state of peace might require, they would first become the proper object of remonstrance, and, for want of explanation, of hostile interference, upon the admitted principle before stated; but, independent of this, it may justly be observed, that the period of peace is not the time in which a navy can be formed. It is not hulks, and ropes, and canvass alone that constitute a navy; in order to render it complete, and formidable, skilful commanders and hardy and experienced seamen are required, and these can only be obtained by a

long course of hostile discipline. That France should ever arrive at such a degree of maritime power, as to become formidable to this country, there is but one chance, and that is, by our continuance of the present war. In the early periods of her revolution, France was not less inferior to her numerous adversaries in military strength, resources, and experience, than she is now in naval power to this country; yet, being driven on by her enemies either to submission or resistance, she has, amidst dangers and calamities, internal dissension and external war, fought her way through derision, defeat, and disgrace, not only to victory and independence, but to an unexampled degree of military power and glory. In admitting therefore with Lord Grey, that our enemy now holds at his disposal the resources of all those maritime powers, who, in former times, have even disputed with ourselves the empire of the seas, let us not wantonly and unnecessarily compel him, for his own defence, to call those powers into action. After having united with our allies to render him great by land, let us now at least take care that we do not render him great by sea. At present his navies are growing in the woods, and his seamen tilling the fields, or filling the ranks of his armies. Let us be cautious how we compel them to appear in more formidable situations. Men act not without motives; and without our hostility, our adversary can have no adequate reason for engaging in the task of forming a naval establishment that may rival that of this country. In the present situation of the globe, he is already superior to every other naval power, and can therefore entertain no fear but from ourselves. Even our maritime strength is to him no legitimate object of envy. Ships, colonies, and commerce, which are to us of indispensable ne-

cessity, are to him only of secondary importance. The attempt to attain them would only involve him in new contests, which it is his true interest to avoid; and notwithstanding his memorable language respecting them, which produced such a sensation in this country, there is little probability of his directing his efforts to this purpose; otherwise, he would not in the negotiations of 1805, have proposed to divest France of so important a portion of her colonial possessions, in both the East and West Indies. It is therefore apparent, that if France ever become a great naval power, England must not only compel her to the necessity of it, but must undertake to be her instructor; and that for making an attempt which must necessarily employ so large a proportion of her resources, she can have no motive but the expectation of terminating a war, the continuance of which cannot fail, from the nature and extent of our strength, to be the perpetual object of her vigilance, and her apprehension."

Although the main position cannot be controverted, that every passing year of the war finds us in a worse situation, yet it may be alleged that the arguments in this address, are not so cogent as they might have been made. The author has not sufficiently dwelt on the probability of the war being brought to our own doors; he has not mentioned the discontents of Ireland, the probable issue of the struggle in Portugal, nor the effects which Bonaparte's preparations are likely to have upon our funds and paper system. Nay, on the other hand, when he asserts that Bonaparte's navies are yet in the forest, and that his seamen are now tilling the ground, or in the ranks of his army, he throws the danger to a distance, and by lessening the people's fears, he diminishes their desire for peace.

The bad policy of having continued the war so long, and the absurdity of perpetuating, or vainly attempting to eternalize warfare, are forcibly pointed out in the following lines.

"The Creator of the universe has not so disposed his works, that the prosperity or aggrandizement of one state must necessarily imply the debasement or misfortune of another; and that the two great communities of Great Britain and France are not less calculated to assist each other in the cause of national honour and felicity, than they are to oppose each other by arms and violence. It must, however, unhappily be admitted, that so fortunate a result must be the offspring of more generous sentiments, and more enlightened views, than are at present to be expected from the recent conduct of either of these two powerful countries; and that until such an event takes place, it will be incumbent upon us, by every fair and justifiable effort, to maintain ourselves upon an equality, at least, with our rival state; but it would be no less criminal than it would be absurd, to suppose that the mere superiority of one state is a sufficient ground for the permanent hostility of another. In the community of nations, as in that of individuals, providence has determined that there shall be degrees of pre-eminence; and it is no more justifiable, to attack a nation by war, on account only of its superior strength or greatness, than it would be in private life to assassinate every person of higher rank than ourselves. It is only by industry, by integrity, by knowledge, by the encouragement of enlarged and virtuous sentiments, by the cultivation of the human mind in every department of science and of art, that we ought to contend for su-

periority over others. It is by such contests only that the human race can be effectually improved, and it is these alone that counteract the calamities which the brutal struggles of physical strength have hitherto inflicted upon mankind.

"Had Lord Grey been fortunate enough to have restored peace to Europe in 1806, what would probably have been the situation of France at this moment? Is it certain, or is it even probable, that Austria would again have been compelled to bite the dust, and Prussia have been destroyed as an independent state? Is it likely that Russia, Sweden and Denmark, would have been found at this time in strict alliance with France? Is it even certain, that if Bonaparte had not found an inflexible enemy in this country, against whom he wished to obtain new resources and new points of attack, he would have attempted the subjugation of Spain and Portugal; would he at this moment have found himself the undisputed dictator of the continent of Europe; or would a daughter of the house of Austria have been the partner of his throne? It is then, in all probability, because a reconciliation with France *did not take place*, that we have now to regret the extended authority of our enemy, and the more formidable attitude which he has assumed with respect to what remains of the independence of Europe. What might have been the present posture of affairs, in case of such a pacification, cannot indeed be precisely determined; but we may with confidence assert, that no circumstances could have occurred, which could have contributed to the aggrandizement of the French ruler, in any degree to be compared with what has actually taken place. It is indeed true, that from the origin of

the present contest, every effort that has been made to limit the dominion and repress the power of France, has tended only to increase them; yet the period in which this extraordinary accession has taken place, is, *precisely that, between the negotiations in 1805, and the present time.* Russia, Prussia, Austria, Sweden, Denmark, Spain, and Portugal, with a very considerable portion of Germany and Italy, might have been rescued from the authority, secured from the influence of the enemy.

The astonishing difference between that and the present, has been occasioned, not by a peace, but by a continuation of the war; which whilst it has increased the resources, and extended the dominions of France, has greatly diminished the power and the influence of this country, has actually destroyed a great portion of her military, and has reduced her to a situation, *not only comparatively, but positively lower, than she was at the time such pacification was proposed.*"

As to the mode in which the war might be expected to be carried on, if Mr. Earl Grey and his party could succeed to power, we meet with the following observations, which show that little good would be effected by a change of plan, without a radical abandonment of the present system of war, and that the conversion of the war from offensive measures to defence, would avail very little.

From this, and similar passages in the speech of Lord Grey, we discover, that although he concurs with the present administration in the expediency of continuing the war, he differs with them as to the manner in which it ought to be conducted.

It is true, he has not particularized the method which he would himself recommend for that pur-

pose; but the general tenor of his observations enables us to conjecture, with sufficient certainty, what that method would be. From these we find, that under his direction the contest would be carried on, rather upon a defensive, than an offensive system. That expensive undertakings and ruinous expeditions would be avoided; but that we should maintain our fleets and armies in full strength, principally for our own defence.

"But whilst the continuance of war, *under any system*, must inevitably add to our present burthens, it must at the same time operate so as to render us less able to bear them, by the inconveniencies and disadvantages which it imposes upon that important portion of our revenue derived from our foreign trade. That we have not suffered so greatly from this cause as might have been expected, is to be attributed to the unremitting industry and perseverance of our merchants, who, as long as any possibility remained of maintaining a commercial intercourse with the continent, did not fail to avail themselves of it to the fullest extent. Another aspect of affairs is now taking place; the maritime states of Europe no longer retain even the form of independence, but are incorporated with the dominions of the conqueror, and the continent is to be hermetically sealed against the introduction of British merchandize.—This, then, has brought on a new crisis, the effects of which cannot, as yet, be fully estimated, although they are already too perceptible in the present state of the mercantile world. Whether such an attempt on the part of the French ruler can be successful, or whether the measures resorted to by our merchants will be found adequate to counteract their effects, yet remains to be tried; but it cannot

be doubted that even if our adversary should fail in carrying his purpose fully into execution, he will succeed in throwing obstacles in the way of our commerce, and in adding to its risks, whilst he diminishes its extent. At the same time it is seriously to be lamented that the means adopted in this country for carrying it on, and without which it has been found impracticable to counteract the precautions and restrictions of her enemies, are such as are highly injurious to the faith of either private or public transactions, and greatly derogatory to the national character. That these disadvantages are much increased by the effects of our orders in council, and by the system of granting licences so justly and so forcibly reprobated by Lord Grey, cannot be doubted. Under the modified system of hostility which he would approve, it may be presumed, that these injurious restrictions would be withdrawn; but it cannot be contended, that during a state of hostility, commerce can at all times be allowed its free operations; or that political objects will not frequently interfere, so as to render restrictions indispensibly necessary, and to produce inconveniencies and losses, for which it is impossible the adventurer can be repaid.

"Nor is it difficult to perceive, that whilst a continuance of the war, under a protracted system, would afford us no effectual relief, it would at the same time leave us under the operation of some of the worst consequences attendant on a state of hostility. Such a war would be without ardour, and without hope.—Enterprize and conquest would be no more.—We might, indeed, prove to our enemy that "*we are able to maintain the honour and independence of our country against every attack that can be made against us,*"

but we are to leave him in the full exercise of that power, which may enable him to renew the attack as often as he pleases, till at length, having shewn him that we are invulnerable at all points, he desists, through mere weariness, from all further offence.

"Is it not obvious, then, that in the present state of the contest between this country and France, the expressions of *offensive* and *defensive* war are become convertible terms, and that there can be no definite limits prescribed between them?

"But it is unnecessary longer to dwell on the effects of a system, which, even if it were shown to be conducive to our interest, it is not in our power to adopt.—Will our adversary suffer us to measure our hostility in such proportions as we may think proper?—To advance and retire at pleasure?—To take just as much or as little as we choose?—And to sport with war as with a child's toy?

"The calamities of the physical world are temporary. Earthquakes, plagues, and tempests, have their season; but a protracted warfare is a perpetual earthquake, a perpetual pestilence, a perpetual storm; and to propose to any people the adoption of such a system, is to propose that they should resolve, not only to live in sorrow, in wretchedness and in peril themselves, but to entail the same calamities on their descendants."

To the following just sentiments, with which the author sums up his appeal to the public, we cordially subscribe and recommend them to the serious attention of our readers.

"The apprehensions so generally entertained in this country of the consequences of a peace with France, are rather the spectres of an inflamed imagination, than the

legitimate offspring of reason and of truth. This will be the more apparent to any man, the more he will endeavour to analyze and define the vague, indistinct, and general positions of those who contend for a continuance, *under some mode or other*, of the present war. Very evident, substantial, and immediate, are, on the contrary, the evils that must result from its further prosecution. However desirable it may be to this country to humble the power and pride of France, experience has shown that it is not by hostility that this is likely to be effected. War, it appears, is the element in which she lives, the nutriment on which she feeds; and whilst war continues, she will continue to invigorate and strengthen herself at the expense of surrounding states. If, in compliance with the plan proposed by Lord Grey, the war be conducted on our part with economy and caution, and be principally confined to a defensive system, *we shall only depress the spirit of the country, and prolong the anxiety and distresses of the people, by an inefficient, a protracted, and, in the end, a ruinous warfare.* If, on the other hand, we resort to measures of annoyance and attack; if we fit out expensive armaments, engage in hazardous expeditions, and subsidize with immense sums every country that can be induced to oppose our enemy, *we must expect a repetition of the same misfortunes that we have heretofore experienced.* A long course of disastrous events has shown THAT IT IS NOT IN THE POWER OF THIS COUNTRY TO CONTROL THE AFFAIRS, AND PRESCRIBE THE DESTINY OF EUROPE; and that IT IS ONLY TO A CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES AND A SEASON OF REPOSE, THAT WE ARE NOW TO LOOK FOR EFFECTUAL RELIEF."

We probably could not close our review in a more appropriate

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manner than by referring our readers to the following extract from the speech of Bernadotte to the Swedes. "In opposition to the supporters of our war system, we have here the language of a warrior, well qualified to appreciate the horrors of war, and who has felt them himself. In this respect, as a practical operator, he differs from our closet politicians, who sit at home, and calmly contemplate war and destruction at a distance. Let us not disdain to be taught by an enemy.

"I have beheld war close at hand; I know all its ravages; there is no conquest which can console a country for the blood of its children shed in a foreign land. I have seen the great emperor of the French, so often crowned with the laurels of victory, surrounded by his invincible armies, sigh after the olive branch of peace. Yes, gentlemen, peace is the alone glorious object of a wise and enlightened government, it is not the extent of a state which constitutes its force and independence; it is its laws, its country, its commerce, and above all its national spirit."

There is good reason to believe that Bernadotte speaks the language of sincerity. An internal evidence appears to warrant the assertion. It is also probable that he has told us what are the genuine sentiments of Bonaparte, who has on many occasions shown himself a friend to peace, and it is probable, he is really so, not merely on the ground of policy, but on the principle of a latent humanity, which even the possession of power has not obliterated. In one point of view, this declaration of Bonaparte's pacific sentiments, as by authority, is important, as tending to show his willingness to make peace at the present juncture.

K.

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DETACHED ANECDOTES.

ATTACHMENT OF COURTIER.

IN an overturning, which occurred in France after the death of Louis 14th, the marquis de Boisdavis, on being made a prisoner by order of the duke of Orleans, the regent, was asked, when and how he had formed 'so close a connection with the duke du Maine: "I never so much as saw him, nor yet the regent." "How then," replied the minister, "come you to have devoted yourself so zealously to the interest of that prince, preferably to the regent?" "Just," returned Boisdavis, "as one takes a fancy without knowing why, or wherefore, to one gamester, sooner than to another."

FIREARMS.

In the history of the state of the sciences in Prussia, and of the manners of its inhabitants under the dominion of the Teutonic order, by professor Lewis von Bacsko, it is said, that Gedomin, a Lithuanian prince, was killed by a firearm, at the siege of the castle of Bayern, in new east Prussia, in the year 1328. This is the earliest mention of firearms in history, and precedes by two years the time at which Schwartz is commonly said to have invented gunpowder. The authority quoted for it is Koralowiec's *Historia Lithuaniae*, P. 1. p. 279, 280.*

* In 1339. the Teutonic knights had three

BOMBS.

At the siege of Heilsberg, in 1520, the markgraf Albert used hollow balls of iron, filled with powder which burst, when they fell on the ground. These were certainly furnished with a fusee, or match of some sort, for they might be prevented from exploding by the application of wet hides.

VAN DER SPIEGEL.

It is the common practice of European courts, on the signing of a treaty, to make presents to those concerned in the negociation. When the treaty of subsidy, between Great Britain, Prussia, and Holland, was concluded on the 19th of April, 1794, presents of considerable magnitude, particularly from the British court, were offered to the grand pensioner, van der Spiegel, and Mr. secretary Fagel. These they politely declined, agreeably to a resolution they had previously taken: "both," says the grand pensioner, "because it would have laid our government under the necessity of making a similar return to the British and Prussian ministers; and because we were ashamed to derive any emolument to ourselves from a treaty, which was in no respect advantageous to our country."

carbines, by means of which "they carried fire with a loud noise into the enemies lines."

ORIGINAL POETRY.

ANALYSIS OF THE YEAR 1810.

Addressed, as usual, to the Printers of the
Belfast Magazine.

Ille ego, qui quondam gracili modulatus avena.

ONCE more, Mynheers,* doth Senor Calderone,

Appear in form, his indolence to own:

"Supineness! apathy! (perchance you'll say)

"Or else despairing to attain your aim,

"You've dropp'd your pen and sacrificed your fame."

My answer is...each dog will have his day.

How much the muse, when singing heretofore,

In tuneful strains displayed historic lore:

How much to rouse besotted minds she strove,

And more than all, the IRISH HEART to move.

How much she laboured (events show in vain)

To give a proper view of things in SPAIN!
How much she lashed corruption...baited knaves—

And high or low, unmasked—venal slaves.

Lost was her labour, vain her toil, I ween,

Few folks or bought, or read your Magazine!

Your efforts thus with those of Calderone,

Were on the public lost, or little known.

No wonder then, the muse was somewhat shy,

And let twelve months unanalysed pass by,

The year now closed—this native strain she gies;

Unchanged, unmuzzled, just to let you see,

And show your umps, that frank and full of glee—

At their devotion, unimpaired...she leers!

Now to display my graphic sons or Koster†,

That due regard to your behoof, I foster;

* 'Mynheer'—see Belfast Mag. Vol. 2, page 38.

† 'Sons of Koster, Alpha, &c.'—referring to the same Magazine.

I'll tell you why your work is not more read,

Begging you'll mind my thesis on this head;

And taking up the world as it passes,
Exempli gratia—throw it into classes.

That class of readers who are *Newly-taught!*

(The *Monk*—and *Ida*—floating through their brain)

"Too much of Ethics in it, they complain!

"No exquisite sensations—quite too flat."

Another class (but not so full of mirth)
With whom each thing and circumstance on earth,

Excepting red-hot loyalty—is cold.

Friends, and supporters of—*eternal War!*

No *pop'ry men*—exclaim—"it is by far,
(And ought not to exist) by far too bold!"

Another class—(and numerous indeed)

Say,—“that they wish to have—when *they* do read;

"And like to see, so far as they're concern'd,

"Something, that is immensely wise and good;

"Something that would be—easy understood,

"But for your Magazine it is too learned!"

Then class the fourth* comes, with a mighty fuss,

Saying, "Sir Editor—attend to us!

"What boots your treatises on moons, and planets?

"Philosophy—Mechanics—Turnips—Clover—

"Retrospects—Physics—Poems—Odes, or Sonnets:

"Give us Polemics, or your book is over;

"Doctrines—opinions—creeds and modes of faith—

Tell us what place we go to, after death;

"Perpend of holding up to truth the mirror:

"Say that *Wc* only are the chosen few,
"Who know the path for mankind to pursue—

* 'Third Class'—taken from the life.

* 'Class the fourth'—taken from the life, except the smoking simile.

"Call virtue nonsense—and inculcate error!
 "Tuning your voice, 'twixt braying and a roar,
 "Look very, very grim, and very sour;
 "Exhibit every topic as you pass,
 "So dim, as if *seen darkly through a glass*;
 "Then Mr. Editor, your Magazine
 "Will thrive and sell like smoke; as will be seen,
 "Smoke did we say? no simile can strike it!
 "All peradventure *will*, nay all *shall* like it!"

Can I say more? there is my jolly boys,
 A chosen sample for you, take your choice.
 Hard would your task be; difficult your case,

Attempting every different taste to please.
 If to your aid each human mean you'd call,
 I'm much afraid you could not please them all:

Therefore, adhering to your former plan,
 Let like who may, proceed as you began;
 And to this maxim, evermore attend—
 "*The public will our guide—its good—our end.*"

Meantime the following little story
 Which, I shall briefly lay before you,
 May tend these cases to illustrate:
 At all events, 'twill reach the asses,
 Contained in the aforesaid classes,
 And may, belike, their plainings frustrate.

Somewhere in India, near the sea,
 The place my story doth not mention,
 Be't where it will, I'm bold to say,
 The tale is not of my invention.

But there, like many other places,
 The sea with food the mouth solaces;
 Affording many a dainty dish
 Of most delicious, sav'ry fish;
 Which fish, the moment it is caught,
 (In order that it may be brought,
 To the next market town for sale;)
 Is crammed in bottom of a sack,
 And then put on a donkey's back,
 —So says my tale.

The fishers to old customs prone,
 In sack's mouth always put a stone,
 To make the sack to balance!
 And when, one just the nick they've found,
 No corners sharp, but terse and round,
 They think they show some talents!

A Bramin chanc'd to pass along,
 Who told these fishers they were wrong,
 For that by balancing with stone,
 They bore two weights instead of one!

Besides a world of pother.
 He bade them lay the stone aside,
 And fairly then the fish divide;
 One half would balance t'other.

"You infidel," the fishers say,
 "Reformer—leveller, away,
 "Are we not keeping to the rules
 "Of our forefathers? are we fools?
 "D'ye think we know not how to pack
 "Our fish upon a donkey's back?
 "If three days hence, your napper's found;
 "In this, our sea, you shall be drowned!

Now from their cases call your ALPHAS forth,

Let's take a range, beginning at the north,
 Where, ocean bound by icy barriers roll,
 And arctic billows beat the frozen pole.

See, where the wintry horrors of those seas,

Join in destruction, with the stern decrees
 Of Napoleon. By the tempest tost,
 If ships remain at sea, they're surely lost,
 If steering into port, fell *Douaniers*,
 The sea-worn barque, (the moment it appears

Within their grasp, like cormorants assail)
 Ransack and plunder with rapacious zeal;
 Its rich contents to confiscation doomed,
 Hard hap to trade! are by the flames consumed.

The insured merchant thinking he avoids,
 These dread dilemmas, seeks redress at Loyd's;

But there he finds a crafty committee,
 Cold and remorseless as the raging sea.

Such events show, ev'n near the polar star,
 What states must feel, whose kings are prone to war.

See SCANIA's sceptre from GUSTAVUS torn,
 Himself a wanderer in a foreign land...
 Stripped of his regal state...despised, forlorn,

That sceptre waving in...a Frenchman's hand!

Mark well the fate which wild ambition brings,
 When with the lust of lawless power combined;

* "*Douaniers*"—French custom house officers.

And sure as death (sad lesson though for kings)
Though late it evermore doth come we find.

That fool imperial, swaggering like a gander!
Of all the Russias' emperor...Alexander,
(Once our most "sage magnanimous ally!")
Behold him wasting all his ways and means,
Destroying mankind in absurd campaigns,
And not ev'n he can tell the reason why.

Say to him Noodle, stupid vain Tczar!
If you persist in carrying on this war,
Much may you lose, but nothing may you gain;
Mark well of all your *war-ing*, the upshot,
Mind Swede's new king...your neighbour Bernadotte,
Not one of ALL THE RUSSIAS may remain!

Show to this mad Tczar, that men were made,
For other purposes than being bled.
Show him a nation powerful, rich and great,
The people happy, generous, brave and free,
In one short reign, 'fallen from this high estate,"
Their commerce ruin'd——

Taxes oppressive, freedom much curtail'd,
And nought but poverty where wealth prevail'd;
This faithful picture plac'd full in his view,
Will show what damage *one weak King may do*.

Say to him let all former errors cease,
Withdraw your troops, let mankind live in peace;
Retrench, reform, look round, and mark the fate
Of ill-star'd monarchs who were once as great,
As you are now, but lost all by their fooling;
The times are dreadful, and wont bear misruling.
Were you not tired, we would cease to roam,
And take a bird's-eye view of things at home;
But statemens' errors and European blunders,
Have in America produced wonders;

Which with affairs in Spain, and ought else new,
Shall in our next appear, meantime adieu.

CALDERONE.

Edentecullo, Dec. 26, 1810.

Some Stanzas of the CASTLE of INDOLENCE, said to be found among the papers of THOMSON.

HERE, in a gloomy grove, some little space,
From this fair castle, by a streamlet's side,
Where waving pines still sound a sullen base,
And water murmurs, as it down doth glide,
A goodly chapel there was edified.
Thither to wend, full many a sonne did use,
Them good man sexton, who doth there abide,
When in they entered been, eftsoons immews,
Silent, in very dark, and well y-cushioned pews.

Then chaplain sleek, up to his pulpit creeps,
A fat round body, and broad face he had,
(He many feasts, I wis, but few fasts keeps,)
Yet of his cheer, he seemed too solemn sad.
He was, in sooth, a drowsy stupid lad,
The rewddest ass, our castle's crew among,
He prankt his band, and then the people bade
Praisn the lord, by singing holy song,
So clerk it raised high, now sing it all the throng.

When this had tuned them to sweet repose,
Sir Sanctity gan preche of...reprobation.
He spake of mystic grace, which straungely flows,
On wight unworthy of justification,
Much bath he talked, and of predestination;
Still he repeteth what he said afore,
And still he crieth out...regeneration;

And still he coughs, and spitteth on
the flore,
And every sentence hems, both after and
afore.

As in some wealthy yeoman's well-stored
yard,

Where fowl of every various kind a-
bound,

The gaudy peacock for his plumage
spar'd,

The valiant cock whose voice doth ear-
ly sound;

The careful hen with ducklings all a-
round,

The strutting turkey, and the meek-
eyed dove.

At even tide, perchance a flock is found,
Of simple geese, sound sleeping, while
above,

Waketh one cackling goose...thus slept we
in that grove.

The three following were written for old
Irish melodies. The first supposed to be
sung by the females after the event of an
unfortunate battle, dissuading their remain-
ing relatives from emigration. X.

FIRST.

ALAS, how sad, by Shannon's flood,
The blush of morning sun appears !...
To men who gave for us their blood,
Ah, what can women give but tears!

How still the field of battle lies !
No shouts upon the breezes blown !
We heard our dying countries' cries,
We sit, deserted and alone.

Why thus collected on the strand,
Whom yet the God-of mercy saves ?
Will ye forsake your native land ?
Will ye desert your brothers' graves ?

Their graves give forth a fearful groan,
" O guard our orphans and our wives,
Like us, make Erin's fate your own,
Like us, for her, yield up your lives !"

Why, why such haste to bear abroad,
The witness of your country's shame ?
Stand by her altars, and her God,
He yet may build her up a name.

Then should her *foreign* children hear,
Of Erin free and blest once more,
Will they not curse their fathers' fear,
That left, too soon, their native shore ?

SECOND.

If to a foreign clime I go,
What Henry feels will Emma know ?

My heart in all its trembling strings,
So tuned to hers alone,
That every breeze, delighted brings,
From hers, a kindred tone ;
And if to foreign clime he goes,
What Henry feels, his Emma knows.

Our hearts seem well-tuned harps that
show,

All that true lovers wish to know ;
To every sorrow, every bliss,
An unison will swell ;

If on thy lips one vagrant kiss,
My tortured strings will tell.
Such pang may Henry never know,
If to a foreign clime he go.

Emma will share my joy and we,,
If to a foreign clime I go ;
Still shall I hear, though far we part,
The music of her mind ;
And echoes soft from Emma's heart,
My wand'ring sense shall bind :
Listen...how plaintive, sad, and low,
When to a distant clime I go!

THIRD.

" There is a hopeless, bitter grief,
" Which oft the feeling heart must
prove,

" There is a pang that mocks relief,
" 'Tis deep, consuming, secret love."

No sigh is heard, nor seen a tear,
And strange to see a smile prevail,
But faint the smile, and insincere,
And o'er a face so deadly pale!

This fairy dream of life is o'er,
No visionary hope to save !
If heaven a mercy has in store,
O send her to an early grave.

(BY SIR WILLIAM JONES.)

WHILE sad suspense, and dull delay,
Bereave my wounded soul of rest ;
New hopes, new fears, from day to day,
By turns assail my lab'ring breast.

My heart, which ardent love consumes,
Throbs with each agonizing thought,
So flutters with entangled plumes,
The lark, in wily meshes caught.

There, she, with unavailing strain,
Pours through the night her warbled
grief ;

The gloom retires, but not her pain,
The dawn appears, but not relief.

Two younglings wait the parent bird,
Their thrilling sorrows to appease,
She comes...ah no, the sound they heard,
Was but a whisper of the breeze.

COWLEY'S EPITAPH

ON HIMSELF WHEN LIVING, WITH THE
TRANSLATION.

HIC, o viator, sub lare parvulo,
 OULTIUS hic est conditus, hic jacet,
 defunctus humani laboris,
 apervacuæque vita.

Non indecora pauperie nitens,
 t non inerti nobilis otio,
 tanoque dilectis popello,
 tivitiis, animosus hostis.

osces ut illum dicere mortuum,
 n terra jam nunc quantula sufficit!
 xempta sit curis, viator,
 'erra sit illa levè, precare.

lic sparge flores, sparge breves rosas,
 lam vita gaudet mortua floribus,
 terbisque odoratis corona,
 'atis adhuc cinerem calentem.

'raveller! mark this little shed,
 here lies the living COWLEY dead!
 scap'd the toils of human strife,
 and miss'd upon the map of life.

ale Poverty with frensied stare,
 and Luxury's inactive glare,
 and Wealth and Power that entertain
 lone but the little and the vain,
 ar from this lowly sheker fly,
 'e sheker of an enemy.

'es...to the world is Cowley dead,
 and this small lap of earth his bed;
 'rav'ler, lightly print his clay,
 and chase his ev'ning cares away;
 ound, in fairest dress dispose,
 'e violet and short-lived rose,
 'e flowrets yield your sweetest breath,
 'e that have charms of life in death)
 and deck, while one small spark survive,
 'e ashes that are yet alive.

B. T.

Translation is requested of the following EPITAPHS; those of PONTANUS are distinguished for pathetic simplicity.

1.

Tumulus LUCIÆ Filiz Jæ. Pontani.
MUSÆ, Filia, luxerunt te in obitu; at
 ipide in hoc luget te pater tuus, quem
 quisti in squallore, cruciatu, gemitu.
 leu, heu, quod nec morienti adfui, qui
 mortis cordolium tibi demerem; nec so-
 rorea ingemiscienti collacrymentur misel-
 e: nec frater singultiens, qui sitienti mi-
 istraret aquulam: nec mater ipæa quæ

collo implicita ore animulum acciperet,
 infelicissimæ. Hoc tamen felix, quod, haud
 multos post annos, revisit, tecumque nunc
 cubat. Ast ego felicior, qui brevi cum u-
 traque edormiscam eodem in conditorio.
 Vale, Filia, Matri frigescenti cineres in-
 terum caleface, ut post etiam resocilles
 meos,

2.

Quinquennio postquam uxor abiit, de-
 dicata prius ædiculæ, monumentum hoc
 tibi statui, tecum quotidianus ut loquer-
 er; nec si mihi non responderes, non res-
 pondebit desiderium tui, per quod ipsa
 tecum semper es, aut obmutescet memo-
 ria per quem tecum nunc loquor. Ave,
 igitur, MEA ADRIANA...ubi enim ossa mea
 tuis miscuero, uterque simul bene valebi-
 mus

3.

Vivus domum hanc mihi paravi in qua
 quiescerem mortuus. Noli, obsecro, in-
 riam mortuo facere, vivus quam fecerem
 nemini. Sum enim JOANNES, JOVIANUS
 PONTANUS, quem amaverunt bonæ Mu-
 sæ, suspexerunt viri probi, honestaverunt
 rages domini. Scis jam qui sum, aut qui
 potius fuerim. Ego vero, te, hospes, no-
 cere in tenebris nequeo. Sed teipsum ut
 noscas, rogo...vale...

4.

Hospes, quod dico, paullum est: asta,
 ac pellege. Heic est sepulchrum haud
 pulcrum pulcræ Fœminæ. Nomen paren-
 tes nominarunt CLAUDIAM. Suum mari-
 tom corde dilexit suo. Gnatos duos cre-
 avit, horum alterum in terra linquit, ali-
 um sub terra locat. Sermone lepido,
 tum autem incessu commodo, Domum
 servavit, lanam fecit. Dixi, abei.

5.

Si fides, si hmanitas, multaque gratus le-
 pore candor,
 Si suorum amor, amicorum charitas,
 Omatumque benevolentia spiritum reduce-
 re possent.

Haud hic situs esset

Johannes Burnet a Elrich 1747.

6.

Baculum hunc R... D... armiger,
 Amator ille musarum,
 Unus Peripateticorum hujus seculi;
 Peracta jam vitæ ambulatione,
 Utriusque fortunæ socium,
 Hic tandem reponce voluit,
 Tu, Lector,
 Disce, vitæ labores,
 Sapiens ferre,
 et

Respice finem.

7.
Vixi quod volui, velui quod Fata vole-
bant,
Nec mihi vita brevis, nec mihi longa fu-
it.

8.
Phlippus Verheyen, Medicinæ Doctor
et Professor, partem sui materialem, hic
in cæmeterio condi voluit, ne templum
dehonestaret, aut nocivis habitibus infi-
ceret. Requiescat in pace.

9.
Salubritatis et voluptatis causa,
Hoc salictum
Paludem, olim, mihi meisque infidum,
Exsicco et orno,
Hic, procul negotiis, strepituque,
Innocuis deliciis,
Silvulas inter nascentes reptandi
Frumiscor.
Hic, si faxit Deus optimus maximus,
Cum quodam juventutis amico superstite,
Sæpe conquiescam senex,
Contentus modicis, meoque lætus;
Sin aliter...
Ævique paululum superserit,
Vos silvulæ, et amici, cæteræque voluptates
Valete!
Diuque lætamini.

1768.
10.
Hic abavis, atavis, et avo, sic patre crea-
tus,
Presbyteris sanctis, Presbyter ipse jacet,

Annos si spectes juvenum flos excidit: at
si
Aut studia, aut mores, transiit ille senex.

11.
Eheu, liberi optimi!...sed non posteri.—

12.
Laudatam tentas Hadriam, lustrare, viator.
Sed tumulata jacet, propriusque sepulta ru-
inis;
Heu! Fuit; et tantum superest informe ca-
daver;
Ergo viator, abi: cogitaque quod ipse ja-
cebis.

TO SLEEP.

SOMNE levis! quamquam certissima mor-
tis imago,
Consortem cupio te tamen esse tori;
Alma quies, optata veni; nam sic sine vita,
Vivere quam suave est, sic sine morte mo-
ri.

TRANSLATED.

SLEEP! though death thou dost resemble,
Still I court thy shadowy aid;
Fear nor Hope shall make me tremble,
In thy lap oblivious laid.

Then, while on my pillow lying,
Envied Bliss, O let me share,
Death, without the pangs of dying;
Life, without its load of care.

USEFUL INVENTIONS.

*Patent of Wm. Watts, of Bath, gen-
tleman, for new combinations of
Machinery for Wind-Mills, Water-
Mills, and Mills moved by Cattle.
Dated Sept. 1809.*

IN Mr. Watt's wind-mill two drum-
wheels or cylinders are placed pa-
rallel to each other, having their axis
in the same horizontal plane, at some
distance asunder, over which work
two endless chains connected at
equal intervals by bars, on which
an equal number of sails are made
to stand erect by square frames
united to them, which are sup-
ported in an upright position by

braces, two of which proceed from
near the top of each to the bar
next before it. The axles of the
drum wheels move in a frame-
work capable of being turned round
horizontally, like the top of a com-
mon wind-mill, by which means,
the line of sails, which rise above
it, can be turned to the wind with
that degree of obliquity, which
will be found to produce the great-
est effect. The above is the prin-
cipal outline of Mr. Watt's wind-
mill, but some other matters are
added for its further improve-
ment; of which the chief is, the
addition of two springs to each sail,

to equalize the irregular action of the wind, which springs are made to act, by each sail being placed in a second frame, moveable on a hinge at the bottom of each of those frames before described, and having cords passed from the upper extremities of this moveable frame through pulleys in the tops of the upright frames, and proceeding thence to the springs, which are placed at the bottom of the latter frames near the cross bars.

The under sails being sheltered from the wind, and the upper ones, receiving it in an angle between each other, they pull round the drum-wheels, to the shafts of which is connected the manufacturing machinery.

The width of the sails, and their distances from each other, must be so regulated, that the wind may strike them sufficiently at the same time, so as not to make the angle of the line of sails with the wind too great.

Only eight sails are represented in action, in the drawing accompanying the specification, but the number is not limited; the power may be much increased by making the distance from drum to drum greater, and adding sails in proportion. Adding length to the sails increases the power in proportion to the increase of sail, without losing time, which is not the case in the present vertical mills. The sails must be made full, to form a concave surface to the wind.

The machinery for a floating tide mill, or current mill, is similar to that above described; its floats may be made of wrought iron, wood, or other materials, and should in general be broader than deep, and as in the sails of the wind-mill, must form a concave surface to the current, if this runs only one way, the concave side of the float may be sta-

tionary; but if it runs both ways, which happens with tides, the floats are made to turn on a pivot in the centre above and below the frame. The machinery is placed at a proper angle with the current between two boats, connected together by a strong framing, which may be fixed between the upper and lower line of floats. The boats are placed parallel with the current, and the floats (as represented in the drawing,) pass obliquely from the bow of one boat to the stern of the other. The number of floats is not limited, the more that can be got to work, *ceteris paribus*, the greater will be the power, which will also be increased by making the floats as deep as the current will admit.

The drum-wheels, chains and cross bars (or axles,) are the same as for the wind-mill; but as water is a steadier power than wind, springs are not required for the floats.

Mr. Watts also mentions as his invention, the working a mill by a fall of water operating on a chain of buckets, passing over a drum-wheel above, and under rollers at the bottom; and has given particular directions for the formation of the links and points of the chain connected with the buckets, which may be of some use to those who desire to construct a mill of this kind.

The machinery for cattle mills, which the patentee likewise states to be his invention, is formed by a connection of planks united by joints, having at their ends wheels travelling in a channel of the framing, and round two drum wheels, to the axles of which may be fixed the manufacturing machinery.

The cattle drawing from a fixed point, in pulling round the drum
L 11

wheels with the machinery, work constantly in a straight line, by which means they move much faster, with much more ease, and perform much more work, than when constrained to travel round a circle.

In a note at the end of the specification, the patentee observes, that there is in appearance some similarity between his plan of working mills by a fall of water, and a method published several years ago by Dr. Desaguliers; but that the doctor's method is defective, the frictions and obstructions operate too much against the power gained, and though in great falls the disadvantages are less in proportion, they are too great for it to be of any general utility.

Observations.... According to the ancient adage, *Nihil est simile sibi*, Mr. Watt's method of working mills by a fall of water, cannot be like that described by Dr. Desaguliers, for it is the very method itself, nor has the patentee mentioned the smallest particular that give him the least claim to the plan, which has all the advantages he has stated it to possess in his specification; but even this statement, it is probable, he borrowed, as well as the invention, for the writer of this article, published in the *Repertory of Arts*, No. 39, for Aug. 1805, "A comparison of the power of the common water mill wheel, with that of the engine constructed for the same purpose by M. Francini, in 1668," (which is the one above mentioned, described by Dr. Desaguliers,) in which paper all that Mr. Watts has said of the advantages of this invention was fully stated.

This gentleman has not confined his invasion of the inventions of others to the above instance, what he calls *his* machinery for cattle mills, is also copied exactly from a

patent of Mr. Anthony George Eckhardt, published in the *Repertory of Arts*, vol. 2, p. 360, and dated, January, 1795.

The articles recited which seem original, are the wind-mill, and the tide-mill; the latter would probably succeed in producing a considerable power in proportion to the current; but there seems to be no necessity for using two boats for it, and that it might be managed in one boat in a much less complicated manner, and so as to be much less exposed to accidents from floods, or from boats or timber floating down the stream.

Wind being less regular in its movement than water; would occasion the wind-mill described to perform worse than the water-mill; and it seems probable that the line of sails would be so subject from this cause, to be shaken back and forwards laterally, and in various other directions, that the chains would be soon broken, and the machinery destroyed. This kind of wind-mill would be also much more complicated than one of the common sort, and would greatly exceed it both in its first cost, and in the expense of repairs.

The uncertainty of the force of the wind, or of the time of its continuance, renders it a moving power only proper for a few operations, which may be occasionally suspended, and again resumed without any great loss; and as the demand in any trade becomes more regular and extensive, the wind is in the same proportion more unfit to work the machinery employed in it; as its cessation besides other evils, must occasion a greater loss through the interruption of the labour of those employed in the works, which it would occasion, and whose wages would still go on whether the mill worked or not.

These reasons have rendered steam engines now generally preferred, even for works for which wind-mills have been most common: and the same causes must occasion even real unequivocal improvements in wind-mills, to be matters of slight importance comparatively, much more so those, whose advantages are so counterbalanced by disadvantages, as to leave it doubtful, upon duly estimating and comparing both, to which side the balance would incline; or as in the present instance, to make it probable that the unfavourable side of the calculation would have the preponderance.

Patent of M. Frederick Albert Winsor, of Pall-mall, London, for improvements upon his former Patent Oven, for carbonising raw fuel into coke and charcoal, extracting from it oil, tar, pyroligneous acid, and ammoniacal liquor, and for producing inflammable gas purified, and deprived of all disagreeable odour; and for applying the above several products to useful purposes—dated February, 1809.

The specification of this patent commences with abusing the various apparatus hitherto in use for producing coal gas, calling them unwieldy, costly and dangerous, unfit for private houses or lighting streets, and praising his own for operating diametrically contrary to all the others, which are enumerated by name, as follows: the apparatus of Messrs. Murdock, Boulton, Watt & Co. of Soho; that of Messrs. Phillips, Lee & Co. Manchester; that of Mr. Cook, Birmingham; and those of Mr. Davis of Tanley Moor, and of Mr. Parkes, mentioned in his chemical catechism; of these the patentee states what he supposes their defects; and proceeds to describe his own appa-

tus; which after all this preface the reader would be led to suppose, was something very clever; but in this he will be rather disappointed. The stoves for producing the gas are thus described by the patentee.

“House and chamber stoves may be constructed of iron or other metal, of earthen or stone-ware, made fire-proof, of pipe clay, or any other fire-proof composition. Their form in general, is that of the German draft stoves, but they may be made also of various other shapes; and the cylinder which separates the fire from the coal inside, may be made equally different in shape, provided that its bulk occupies from one-third to one-half of the area within the stove, so that the heat may more equally be distributed among the surrounding coal or fuel; for instead of surrounding any iron or other retorts filled with coal or other fuel, by a large fire, I place my fires in the centre of the vessels charged with raw fuel; and I employ the refuse coke and coal only to burn in those cylinders, or iron cones surrounded by said raw fuel; hence the fire and heat generated in the centre expand by the laws of nature in all directions, but chiefly upwards and sideways, and a much greater quantity of caloric is thus generated by means of a good draft, and is more equally distributed among the coal, so as to cause a speedier and more perfect carbonisation.”

The patentee after this recounts, what he considers the imperfections of the common methods of applying the heat to the gas-ovens, from which his are free; and then states, “that by his method, one third of a bushel of refuse coke may generate sufficient caloric to carbonise a whole bushel of coal, so as to produce one bushel and a half of good coke again, besides from five to six pounds of oil tar, from seven to eight pounds of strong ammoniacal liquor, and

from 220, to 360 cubic feet of pure gas.

After mentioning some uses of the above substances, which are all commonly known, the patentee further states of his apparatus: "that the cylinders or cones, containing the fires may be so constructed as to give a horizontal, perpendicular, oblique, serpentine, or reverberating direction, to the fire or flame, in its passage through the raw fuel or other combustibles to be analysed; the heat and flame may be led up, and downwards, to the right, and left, and in all possible directions through the carbonising fuel; for the longer the fire draft is detained in its passage, and the greater the circuit it makes through the fuel, the sooner, and the better will the process of carbonisation be effected, and the better will be the quality of the products precipitated in the condensers.

The patentee next describes his apparatus for large works thus: "In my large succession stoves, principally made of fire and other bricks, divided into several compartments, and closed with iron covers, the fires run from one, two, three, four, or more grates through a number of flues in the midst of coal, and meet in the centre at one chimney; these compartments are either larger or smaller, to hold from one peck to one sack, or more, of coal or other fuel; and are charged and discharged in succession, without in the least interrupting the process of the other compartments, so that the operation of the furnace goes on day and night without any hindrance. From each compartment, a separate flue, or conductor carries the raw smoke to the great main connected with the condenser, so that when one of them is discharging of coke, to be recharged with coal, &c. the communicating flue, or tube, to the main is shut by a cock or valve,

in order to prevent the access of air to the great main; but as soon as charged and covered in, the communication to the main is restored, that the raw smoke may freely pass to the condenser. In this manner furnaces of any dimensions may be constructed; and good coke may be made, even of the refuse or siftings of coal, if forms of iron, clay, or wire like a frame work, are filled with small coal, and placed within these compartments; this coke will make good coke-cakes of any size or shape, by which means the breakage, and its waste is avoided. The condenser, which is the next principal part of the machine, cools the hot smoke and gas much speedier and more perfect than gasometers, where it is retained in large volumes; whereas, to perform a complete analysis, it should be as minutely subdivided as possible; for this purpose my chamber-stoves have metal, earthen, or stone vessels made in form of a pedestal, or any other convenient figure, to support them: these vessels have several subdivisions or partitions filled with lime water, or cream of lime, or lime diffused through them, so far as to leave only from half an inch, to two or three inches space (agreeably to the size and charge of the stoves) above the surface of the water. The lower chambers, where the tar and ammoniacal liquor collect are without water. The hot smoke from the stove, is led by a strong pipe either through or beside the fire-place and ash-hole into the lower chamber of the condenser, where it is minutely subdivided in winding round and passing through several side partitions perforated with small holes; from hence the smoke and gas strike upwards through a fixed tube on the first surface of water saturated with lime, which by its chemical affinity to sulphur, &c.

attracts those offensive particles, that otherwise accompany more or less the hydro-carbonic gas from different sorts of coal and some other combustibles; from hence the smoke is made again to ascend by a tube, and to *serpentine* again as it were in minute subdivisions through several side partitions perforated with holes, over three, four, and more surfaces of lime water, which all serve to 'cool, decompose, and refine it into pure gas. When it is examined by proper trying pipes, and found quite transparent, it is then suffered to force its way through the main, and side tubes, towards the spots, where the burners are fixed to give light. Proper vent must be given in time for the smoke to displace the different columns of air contained in the condensers, main tube, and side branches; first, by the trying pipes near the condensor, secondly, by those of the main, and lastly, by the cocks or valves near the burners."

After a digression relative to the exhibitions at the Lyceum, Green-street, and Pall-mall, the patentee proceeds thus with the account of his apparatus. "Large iron stoves, and succession furnaces, have separate condensers placed at a few feet distance from them; so that they are not in the way of charging and discharging the stoves, nor of being injured by the heat. The tops of these stoves have upright ledges or shoulders, with alembic covers, to serve for evaporating or distilling tar, &c. by the same heat, and also to form a sand bath for the purpose of any other evaporation, distillation, &c. These condensers may be made of brick or stone-work, lined with lead, &c. or wholly of iron, tin-plate or other metal, and even stone or earthen wares; but the cheapest and simplest are made with large wine, or other casks cut in halves,

with several bottoms made of wood or metal, in the manner above described to hold several surfaces of lime water. Should the coal be of strong quality, it will be proper to throw a small quantity of slaked lime at the bottom of the stove, sprinkled over with a little water; the steam of which will rise through the coal, and impregnate itself with the smoke, to purify it the better from the disagreeable odour. Formerly I used to mix a small quantity of lime with the coal, but this affects the coke more or less; and I find that throwing lime into the bottom of the stove answers still better, and the lime is not intermixed with the coke. Persons using reservoirs, or gas-holders, are ignorant of the effect which the pressure of the air has on the main tubes and side branches, when left open at the beginning and towards the close of the process. It is well known that the atmosphere presses with a force of fourteen pounds on every square inch of surface: hence, on an aperture of only the fourteenth part of an inch, the pressure is one pound. Now at the beginning of the process, when the gas has not yet obtained sufficient elastic force to displace the air within the tubes, although the reservoir or gasholders may be quite filled, if you attempt lighting it too soon, the blue flame will frequently be forced inwards by the superior force of the atmosphere, when it rushes with the rapidity of lightning through any length of tube into the reservoir, and explodes it with a force equal to gunpowder; hence, the larger the reservoir, the greater the danger. The same effect must take place towards the close, when the elastic pressure of the gas must become inferior to that of the atmosphere; and where-soever there is a flame left burning, accidents are likely to happen, as

the cause of danger still exists the same as in gunpowder mills, which may stand safe for years and be blown up at last. No human ingenuity can prevent the explosion of gas where it is suffered to accumulate in any quantity, for it is impossible to guard against it with any safety valves, or other contrivances, as is done with steam engines; the bursting of which depends on different principles."

The patentee concludes, with stating, "that, the principle of placing a fire in the centre, may be applied to heat or boil, distil or evaporate water or other liquids, in wooden casks, or other vessels, much sooner than can be done in the common mode of applying the heat under and around the vessels used for these purposes. It may also be applied for airing, drying, baking, stewing, &c. In any of the fire-places in my stores and furnaces, a strong metal, or fire-proof composition tube may be led through the middle, supplied with fresh air by a tube connected with the outside, through the wall. By this means a great quantity of fresh air may be speedily rarified, heated, and be conducted by other tubes, fixed and flexible, to warm rooms, and even whole houses, in a far superior and safer manner than can be done by steam, or the fire flues now in use."

Observations....This patent has excited considerable attention, on account of the act of Parliament, passed a few months ago, establishing, or chartering a company, with a large capital, and the liberty of transferring shares, for carrying into effect Mr. Winsor's method of producing coal gas, and applying it to various useful purposes, which method it was expected would be explained in the specification of this patent, and for this reason, copious extracts from it are here inserted.

It does not appear that the me-

thod of heating the gas-oven, by a fire-place made in its centre, which is so much extolled by the patentee will be so advantageous as he asserts; for it has been proved by well known and accurate experiments, by Count Rumford and others, that heat is communicated but in a very small degree downwards, and very little more sideways, and therefore that the ascending heat is that which it is alone material to attend to; in heating solid substances in close vessels, this takes place even more than with fluids; as no intestine motion occurs in them as in the latter, to distribute the heat to the parts more remote from the fire; besides this, from a gas furnace constructed with the fire-place in the centre of the oven, it would be very difficult to extract the coke; and still more so if furnished with the numerous pipes which, the patentee mentions, should "*serpentine*" through it. For the reason stated, it is probable that gas-ovens with the heat applied beneath their bottoms alone, would be found as efficacious as any, while they would be much simpler and more easily constructed.

The gas reservoir, which is the other chief part of the apparatus of the patentee, from his own statement is not merely objectionable, but extremely dangerous, as the frightful account which he has given of the risk of explosion, in producing the gas, applies solely to his own apparatus; for though he has asserted (with that unqualified boldness for which foreigners are so remarkable) "that no human ingenuity can prevent, or guard against explosions of this nature; estimating all ingenuity by his own; yet this is not only very possible, but has been done almost from the first, by Mr. Murdock, (the original inventor of the extensive application of coal gas to useful purposes) by the simple contrivance of a gas-holder, balanced

by a weight, and suspended in a cistern of water; which always has a tendency to sink when not kept up by the gas forced into it by the action of the furnace, and which consequently always drives the gas outwards, whenever the cocks are opened to admit its escape, and thereby effectually prevents the admission of air through the pipes, at the commencement and termination of the operation; from which the patentee, with some reason, apprehends such alarming accidents; and a satisfactory proof of its perfect adequacy for this purpose arises from the fact, that we have no account of the smallest explosion having occurred in any gas apparatus where the balanced gas-holders mentioned were used; and moreover the security which this contrivance gives, is considered so complete, that it has never been thought worth while to add valves where the gas departs from the gas-holder, to prevent its return; a most obvious means for this purpose, though thought by the patentee to be impossible.

But though this apparatus so pompously announced, instead of surpassing those previously made, is inferior to most of them, and though the patentee cannot be permitted to assume the station of first inventor of the application of coal gas to useful purposes, which he so earnestly strove to effect; yet he must be allowed the merit of having greatly

contributed to excite general attention to this useful contrivance, and to give it the extensive notice it now possesses, which but for him, it is probable for a long period hence, it would not have attained.

If the merit of the different persons, who have applied themselves to the construction of apparatus for making coal gas, was estimated, that of each would probably be found to arise from the following considerations.

Mr. Murdock has the merit of being the first who invented and constructed an extensive apparatus for coal gas.

Mr. Cook, of Birmingham, was the first who brought the plan within the reach of the lesser artificers, fitted it for small works, and applied it to supply soldering lamps, and those for working glass ornaments.

Mr. Clegg, of Manchester, was the first who gave the public accurate plans, and drawings of the apparatus, for extensive purposes, which plans may be seen in the 26th vol. of the transactions of the society of arts.

And Mr. Winsor by his lectures, advertisements, patents, extraordinary plan for a gas company with a vast capital, and his act of parliament, has most brought the invention into notice, and contributed to its present extensive publicity.

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BELLAST MAG NO IXIK.

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MONTHLY RETROSPECT OF POLITICS.

On virtue can alone this kingdom stand,
 On public virtue, every virtue join'd :
 For lost this social cement of mankind,
 The greatest Empires, by scarce felt de-
 grees,
 Will moulder soft away, till tottering
 loose,
 They prone at last to total ruin rush.
 What are without it Senates, save a face
 Of consultation deep, and reason free,
 While the determin'd voice and heart are
 sold ?
 What boasted Freedom, save an empty
 name ?
 And what Election, but a market vile
 Of Slaves self-barter'd ?

THOMSON'S LIBERTY.

IT is refreshing to look back at the poets of former days, and contrast them with many of the present day. Yet these animated advocates of liberty, from Milton, to the poets who flourished in the times of the first two Georges, were abused by the pensioned Johnson, for their adherence to the cause of freedom. He who had been the supporter of the exiled dynasty of Stuart, and long opposed the house of Brunswick, in the beginning of the present reign found it no great transition to pass into the opposite service, and become the venal supporter of that faction, which from the days of Bute have stamped a character on the present times. Such sentiments, as are contained in the lines, which form the motto to the present retrospect, and similar passages, which are thickly interspersed through the writings of Pope, Thomson, Gray, and Akenside, engage the veneration and gratitude of posterity to the authors, notwithstanding the present fashion of fastidious squeamishness, which makes some of our present poets affirm that they have nothing to do with politics; and notwithstanding the snarling of Johnson, who in styling those effu-

sions of liberty, mere declamations in favour of freedom, which was in no danger, affords to us a clue to judge of himself, and his writings. For it is no uncommon circumstance, unjustly to accuse others of intentions, which are only suggested by the conscience of the accuser. Thus on his own evidence, perhaps, it may be no injustice to accuse Johnson as acting the part of a sophist, and being merely the declaimer in many of his far-famed writings, both on politics and morals, and the sturdy morality, as it has been styled, of the Rambler, may, if tried in the balance he unjustly applied to others, be found to center in pomposity of expression, and with very little of the genuine feelings of the heart.

To literature, however, the cause of freedom is much indebted for many able defenders, although some otherwise eminent and learned men, have prostituted their talents to gloss over the defects of arbitrary power. In our last retrospect, we alluded to the difference between learning, or knowledge, and wisdom. They are essentially different. Cowper has well illustrated their opposite properties.

..... " Here the heart
 " May give a useful lesson to the head,
 And learning wiser grow without his
 books,
 Knowledge and wisdom far from being
 one,
 Have oftimes no connexion. Knowledge
 dwells
 In heads replete with thoughts of other
 men,
 Wisdom in minds attentive to their own.
 Knowledge, a rude unprofitable mass,
 The mere materials with which wisdom
 builds,
 'Till smooth'd, and squar'd, and fitted to
 its place,

Does but encumber, whom it seems t'enrich,

Knowledge is proud, that he has learned so much,

Wisdom is humble, that he knows no more.

Books are not seldom talismans and spells,
By which the magic art of shrewder wits
Holds an *unthinking* multitude enthralld."

Writers are only useful so far as they excite others to think, and to reflect; to compare and judge: to form their verdicts on the evidence adduced to them: and it is of far more importance to a nation, that authors should exert themselves to assist the multitude to think, than to prescribe the line of thought for them. Then only can knowledge be ancillary to wisdom, and literature profitably aid the cause of liberty. It is of more importance that the many should be incited to reflect on their own interests, and the interests of the nation; than that the few should display their learning, or their wit; otherwise science may be made to prop the cause of despotism, and learning draw from the consideration of our rights. As an apology for the supposed intrusion of those remarks on literature into a political retrospect, it may be sufficient to remark, that the subjects here treated on, have no very remote connexion with the *genuine science and philosophy of politics*.

The press is an impassive instrument, and may be useful or otherwise, as it is directed. As literature has in some cases been made subservient to the purposes of despotism, so the press, as the instrument of literature, may instruct or mislead, and this view of the question is daily exemplified in the state of the periodical publications, of which the greater number are leagued on the side of power. Pay and patronage are readily derived from this quarter, and when these circum-

stances are considered, we need not wonder at the systematic deception practised by many of the public prints. But it is not enough, that so many are under pay, intimidation is used to silence the refractory. The late prosecutions in England are alarming to the friends of a free press, and if the system succeed, bids fair to stop free discussion, for few have sufficient strength of nerves to write boldly, under the impending dread of a two years imprisonment. In England, public spirit has latterly shown a little tendency to revive, and there appear symptoms of resuscitation, after a period of suspended animation. Instead of gently cherishing this tendency, strong efforts are used to repress this restoration of the languid powers, and the press is not permitted to breathe freely. In such a crisis, what is the line for the enlightened friends of freedom to pursue? Probably not to expose themselves unprotected to the shafts of power, or to sufferings, for the sake of an *ungrateful people*, who are more prone to blame, than to succour their defenders. Still less can an honest man hark in with the present cry. Sincerity prevents the show of approbation, and indignation will not let him be entirely silent. Reserving himself for better times, he must be cautious, and endeavour to exemplify the wisdom of prudence, and the unbroken spirit of a virtuous disapprobation of profligacy and corruption. He must be especially careful of countenancing a departure from the line of rectitude, or by an *unrighteous condescension*, to betray the cause of honour and honesty! At least he ought to keep himself pure in word, and thought, and deed, from participating in those things, which he disapproves. If he can do nothing

availingly for his country, he must do nothing against her interest, and withhold with firmness, all seeming to approve, what his heart disowns. Let us keep in remembrance, that despotism is more to be dreaded than anarchy, and that the slow consuming disease of corruption, is often more fatal than the fever of licentiousness.

We, in general, agree with that sturdy champion of the people, Mr. Cobbet, whose imprisonment, like the condensation of air in an air gun, only serves to increase energy, and elasticity, while the words "State Prison, Newgate," seem only to operate as a cartridge, which more effectually rams down the contents, makes the report snarier, and its effects surer. But in several points we differ from him, and in no one point more, than in the one contained in the following sentence, which we consider as in its spirit, a perfect *anglicism*, grateful; we fear too grateful to the English ear, but although a pet principle of Mr. Cobbet, is not the less selfish, partial, and iniquitous in itself, and inconsistent with the rights of men, and of nations.

"As to the expediency of the measure, says he, (viz—the abrogation of the orders of council,) if the obligations of good faith were wholly out of the question, being thoroughly convinced, that, first or last, we shall come to the plain, simple, unqualified assertion and maintainance of the absolute sovereignty of the sea, or make up our minds, or rather debase them, which, I trust, we never shall, to submit to become first an *inferior* nation, and next, by an easy transition, to become the vassal of France, now being thoroughly convinced of this, &c—"

We have professed ourselves, on all occasions, inimical to that mo-

ndopolizing system; and spirit of exclusion, which makes nations, as well as individuals, the objects of fear, and hatred to their neighbours. We have felt much, as Irishmen, from the effects of this domineering spirit, and we have therefore perhaps less scruple as men, in declaring, such a spirit to be a curse to other countries, and to its own, eventual ruin. This assertion of an *absolute sovereignty of the sea*, appears to be a sounding of the trumpet for interminable war, or at least a war never to end until Rome or Carthage be utterly destroyed, and raised from the list of nations. It is indeed a declaration of war *against the world*, and we think the effect of such declarations from party writers, known to speak, in general, the sentiments of the people at large, must be to make all the nations on the continent *volunteers* in the service of France, rather than *be*, as is supposed, *pressed* into it, on seeing that the *people*, of this country as well as the actual administration, are equally well inclined to close up the ocean for their own benefit, or to erect turnpike-gates on what providence intended as a free high-road for the world. It is such an unfavourable impression of the British character, thus propagated, with strong confirmation, through the medium of a popular writer like Mr. C. which does Napoleon such good service, makes all Europe clasp his knees as a deliverer from the great monster of the deep, and elevates him into the *liberator*, not as he is, the *subjugator* of the globe.

There was long a distinction willingly made on the continent between the people and the casual ministerial government of Britain, but such domineering assertions, (the offspring of pride, not of any generous prin-

ciple), of absolute sovereignty over the great common of the ocean, made by one of the people themselves, high, perhaps highest in their confidence and estimation, must fix an inveterate hostility on the continent, against the nation itself, and very name of Briton. The people are thus, in the eyes of the nations, completely incorporated, and identified with the administration, however it may change; and it must be concluded abroad, that the same vital, or mortal maxim, will continue to be the spring of political action in this country; even tho' in the dice-box of human events, William Cobbett should succeed to the place in the cabinet formerly occupied by William Pitt.

In the orders of council, (11th Nov. 1807,) it says, "his Majesty is taking measures for asserting and vindicating his just rights, and for supporting that *maritime power*, which the exertions, and valour of his people have enabled him to establish, and maintain, and the maintenance of which is not more essential to the safety and prosperity of his majesty's dominions, than it is to the protection of such states as shall retain their independence, and to the general intercourse, and happiness of mankind". This paragraph if not already understood by the nations on the continent, must be well illustrated by Mr. Cobbett's phrase of plain, simple, unqualified assertion and maintenance of the *absolute sovereignty of the sea*, which, he adds, is necessary to the independence of England.

For our parts, we can see nothing in this expression, but a cunning attempt, (most inconsistent with such a manly mind), to confound two things totally different, as if they must stand or fall together, national independence, and universal sovereignty. God forbid that their inde-

pendence of any single country, should depend upon an exclusive and absolute domination, incompatible with the rights and natural endeavours of every other country, to make the best use of their resources, and their industry. Perish the independence of that country, where such are the only means of supporting it! We see no such alternative as necessary, either to be absolute sovereign of the sea, or an "inferior power," and "the vassal of France." We need neither be tyrants nor slaves. Let us be a fair, honourable, and liberal nation, not led astray by a purblind pedlar policy, but actuated by a generous ambition of outstripping all our competitors, in the great mart of the world, by superior activity, industry, mind, and machinery. While such maxims, as we glory to have thus reprobated, are the ruling maxims of cabinets, and what is worse, of countries, how can the feeling heart or the considerate head rejoice in victory, or sympathise in defeat? It is a combat between the LION and the TIGER.—The quiet inhabitants tremble, whatever be the issue of the contest; and the forest rebellows with the savage roar.

The renovation of the liberty of the press, by the Spanish Cortes, on further explanation, is found to be only a half-measure, as it is still restricted with regard to discussions on the subject of religion. In restoring the lost liberties of a country, a capitulation with abuses, damps the rising spirit of the people. In the present case, a suspicion of ultimate success in regenerating Spain is justly excited. It would be desirable to see greater energy. Yet there is a faint resemblance between the popular language used by some speakers in the Cortes, to the conduct of the first French national as-

sembly. Our ideas are some times carried back to that period of great hope, and we are not unpleasantly reminded of some similitude. The French revolution was marred by a combination of circumstances, for which liberty is not justly blameable. The restoration of liberty, and the removal of long confirmed oppression are objects of anxious desideration to the lovers of the cause of freedom all over the world. To them however, the present scenes in Spain, furnish more causes for painful anxiety, than for joyful expectation. Some in the Cortes speak highly of the state of liberty in Britain: So did many of the members of the first French assemblies. Things viewed at a distance often look better, than a nearer and a more close inspection will justify.

Our war-loving empire are now in a fair way of being soon tired of their favourite game. Until repeated disappointments, and great distresses teach them better, they are fond of war. As in the case of the American war, it would not be surprising if the tide of popular opinion would ere long turn in favour of peace. That war was for a long period popular, but at length the conductors of it were forced to resign, and peace was made. The public and private financial distress, and the disappointment of the high-raised hopes of almost annihilating with speed the French army in Portugal, are forcing the people to feel. The general pressure of distress coming home individually often excites minds to reflect, which are completely callous to other considerations. If they are little sensible to general inconvenience and miseries, their own sufferings rouse them, and they are quick to perceive wherein they are pinched.—The crisis is now arrived, when most

people are forced to acknowledge, that the effects of the war are brought home to them, in one shape or another. The ill success of the English fleet at the Isle of France, being a failure in that source of strength, hitherto supposed to be invincible, although the extent of the loss is not very great, may tend to abate the high confidence, and cause some misgivings, as to the omnipotence of our boasted security. All considerations combined, may gradually tend to produce a disposition for peace.

To enable our readers to form a just estimate of our Portuguese allies, for whom nominally our government is so lavish of the blood and treasure of the nation, although perhaps the true motives may be found in a desire to retain place by an affected display of vigour, and an inclination rather to do mischief than to do nothing, we shall give some extracts from "Robert Semple's second journey to Spain, in the spring of 1809." They may assist in disabusing the people of some prejudices, and show for what we are fighting.

"The mob of Lisbon was armed, and determined to show that it was so. Every night, at least one Frenchman, or one suspected to be so, was discovered and dragged to prison, where, generally, his dead body alone arrived. I myself was witness to an Englishman being murdered in this manner, and strove in vain to save his life. An Englishman! you exclaim. Yes, reader, an Englishman. It was on a Sunday evening, and I was proceeding up the principal street, when having advanced a little beyond the headquarters of the English general, I heard the shoutings of a great mob. They drew nearer, and I presently found myself enveloped amidst a furious crowd, dragging along a poor

wretch in an English dress; his countenance disfigured with blood, and hardly able to stagger along from the blows which he had received. I demanded his crime. They told me he was a Frenchman, but an English officer who was in the crowd, exclaimed that it was his servant, and endeavoured to reason with some who appeared as leaders of the mob. At this intelligence, I made my utmost efforts to get near the unfortunate man, and just arrived in time to seize with both my hands a pike which some brave Portuguese from behind was endeavouring to thrust into his back. I called out to the officer to assist me. He replied, it was the positive order of the General, that in all such cases, no Englishman should interfere, and advised me to take care of my own life. I was in the midst of pikes, swords, and daggers, which seemed to be thrust about in all directions, as if through madness or intoxication. In spite of all my struggles, I was thrown down and nearly trampled upon by the mob, and at length with difficulty escaped from amongst them. Next morning, I was informed that the poor wretch had been murdered in the course of the night. And this passed within one hundred yards of the English head quarters."

"The English have supported a regency odious to the people, and have lost more by that, and the convention of Cintra, than they have gained at Vimiera. The French are attacking in all directions, old and corrupted establishments, ready to fall by their own weight. We fly to prop them up with the whole of England's strength. The natural consequence is, that the people of most countries execrate the French, but find it hard to condemn many of their measures; while on the con-

trary, the English are very generally beloved, and their measures execrated. The former government of Portugal, of which the present regency is the representative, was a very bad one. Its oppressions and its ignorance are alike notorious. Yet we have linked ourselves to this government, and not to the people. We make no appeals, as it were, directly from nation to nation. All that we say comes to the people through the medium of magistrates, not beloved nor respected, farther than that they hold an arbitrary power in their hands.

"I beheld at Lisbon a government hated yet implicitly obeyed; and this was to me a kind of clue to the national character, where the hereditary rights of tyrannizing in the great, and long habits of servitude in the multitude, compose the principal traits. But the people are awakened; they are appealed to; they are armed! and habits of freedom will by degrees arise among them. Never. This nation, with all its old rites, its superstitions, and its prejudices of three centuries, is in its decrepitude. To produce any good, the whole race must be renewed. Their present enthusiasm, produced by the pressure and the concurrence of wonderful circumstances, proves to me nothing."

To confirm feeling minds in their detestation of the horrid trade of war, the following anecdote, extracted from the same author, may serve better than volumes of declamation. Such scenes of private distresses are common amid the destructive ravages attendant on warfare.

"Our protracted stay at Posadas enabled me to witness one of those scenes which mark as it were, the very outskirts of war, and affect us more than those of greater

horror. A poor woman of the place had been informed that her only son was killed in battle, and she of course had given herself up to grief; but this very morning a peasant arrived with certain intelligence, not only that her son was living, but that he was actually approaching the village, and not above a league^a distant from it. The first shock of these good tidings overpowered the mother's feelings, she ran out into the streets uttering screams of joy, and telling every one she met, that he was not dead, that he was living, that he was approaching, that he would soon be in his dear mother's house. After some time she exclaimed, "But why do I stop here? Come away, come away, and meet him," and so saying, attired as she was, she hurried into the road, and soon disappeared. But what can describe her return? Her son lived, but alas! how changed since last she saw him! His arm had been carried away by a cannon-ball, the bandages of his wound were dyed with blood; he was pale and emaciated, and so weak, that he was with difficulty supported on his ass, in a kind of cradle, by the help of a peasant who walked by his side.—On the other side walked his mother; now looking down on the ground, now up to heaven, but chiefly on her son, with anxious eyes, and a countenance in which joy and grief exultation and despondency, reigned by turns."

Bernadotte, himself a warrior, has in his address to the diet of Sweden, feelingly described the horrors of war, and ingenuously, and most probably with sincerity, expressed his dislike of it. He has also told us, with the same apparent sincerity, for which we may give credit from internal evidence, that Bonaparte amid his victories has often sighed for peace.* The ardent

votaries for war in these countries may now be probably gratified in the full extent of their wishes. Sweden has already declared war, and the United States of America are on the point of entering on hostile measures, provided wisdom in our administration, or haply in their successors do not avert the blow. The time also may not be far distant, when the contest will be the legions of Bonaparte may be on our own territory. In this country we have had some fatal specimens of the practical horrors of war. In England, little has been known of war for a long time, but as a business to talk of, and they have contemplated it so circumstanced with great indifference, and cool-bloodedness. It remains to be seen how far they will accommodate practice to unfeeling theory, if they should experience brought home to themselves, the destructive horrors, which while ravaging other nations, they have coldly contemplated.

Massena has changed his position in Portugal, without Lord Wellington having it in his power to prevent this change, or the junction of a reinforcement under General Drouot.—Other detachments are expected to follow. It is not difficult to prognosticate the event of the business, when the French feel themselves sufficiently strong from the superiority of numbers, and their reinforcements being greatly augmented, to become the assailants. The troops sent from Great Britain and Ireland will most probably be in far less numbers. The French, notwithstanding the confident assertions of news-writers, and their correspondents, who abundantly supply us with the vague rumours of the camp, do not appear to have been greatly in want of provisions. Some alarming a-

* See Page 417 of this Magazine.

prehensions may now be entertained during the detention of the supplies from England and Ireland, from contrary winds, not only for the British army, but for the miserable inhabitants of Lisbon, now so much crowded with fugitives. Notwithstanding all the fair glosses of systematic and long practised deception, the ensuing spring will probably by the issue manifest the real situation of our affairs in Portugal. The termination of our expeditions only effectually remedies the delusion.

The Linen-board have abolished the office of inspector-general, as useless, and attended with great expense. We are also informed, that they have ordered the late inspector-general to be prosecuted at law, for his attempt to suborn two of the county inspectors to commit perjury to screen his peculations. This act of apparent virtue may not be intitled to great merit. The dread of parliamentary inquiry, and the fear of the abolition of the board cannot be supposed to be without their effects. It may be asked, why the linen trade should not, like other trades, be able to stand alone, and be protected by the common execution of the law, in case of frauds, without the intervention of a board, powerful only for the purposes of dispensing patronage?

The public attention has been with great propriety turned to the case of a catholic soldier in a regiment of Irish militia. For declining to march to church with his regiment, he was ordered into confinement, though the right of chusing his religion is confirmed to him by law. While in confinement he wrote a letter of remonstrance, in which he was considered not to have complained with sufficient gentleness, to please his superiors. He was brought to a court-martial, and sentenced to receive 1000 lashes.

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This sentence was afterwards commuted to service for life in a condemned regiment, a change only from most severe to greatly severe, and he was sent as far as the isle of Wight, on his way to the West Indies. On the remonstrance of Doctor Troy, he has been since brought back, and obtained his discharge from the army, and we are told the sentence has been pronounced improperly severe by the Irish commander-in-chief. Yet still no disapprobation has been publicly expressed of the conduct of the officer, who brought him to trial, nor of the court-martial, who pronounced the excessive punishment. This business is likely to be brought forward for investigation in a court of law, and in the imperial parliament.

In consequence of the King's indisposition both houses of parliament appointed committees to examine the physicians who attended him. The fact of his derangement and consequent incapacity to discharge the regal functions are established by these reports. The physicians nevertheless express confident hopes of his recovery. The house of commons have proceeded to declare the incapacity, and have determined by a majority of 112, to constitute the Prince of Wales regent, during the incapacity, by bill, instead of an address. In the present early stage of this business, and as many alterations may be yet made, it is not to be expected that in a monthly account, we should give a complete detail of the transactions, so far as they have already proceeded. It may suffice to notice, that there is much reliance on precedent, lawyer-like rather looking to what has been done at a former period, than to what ought to be done. There will probably be extended scope for political cabal, and abundance of rival jockeyship displayed, by those now in place, and those who are eagerly desirous of

N n n

succeeding to power. But amid these struggles of party, the interests of the nation should be paramount in the nation's view. To the people it is of far more importance, instead of the question of limitation, or non-limitation of the regency, or whose names shall be read as ministers in the court-calendar, that effectual limitations should be put on the encroachments of power, in whose hands soever it may be vested, that corruption should be effectually restrained, and the rights of the nation secured by a wise system of reform, set about in good earnest, and undeviatingly pursued, till the accumulating abuses of successive years be removed.

In the mean time, the present ministers hold to the wreck of their places with great tenacity; resolved, if they are not able to retain their places, that they will limit their successors as much as possible; and the majority in the house of commons as yet support them. This is not to be wondered at. Whoever is minister at the time of a general election, has the command of returning their adherents for the treasury boroughs, and owing to the infatuation of a popular cry, ministers had, at the election in 1807, more influence than usual, over places not so directly under their controul. We refer to the conclusion of our motto, for the hurtful consequences of such a system. Influence thus exerted, is the fruitful source of corruption, and the bane of freedom.

PUBLIC OCCURRENCES.

RESOLUTIONS OF BLEACHERS.

On the 9th of last month a meeting of the proprietors of bleachgreens in the neighbourhood of Belfast, was held in the white linen-hall, which was numerously attended. Entire unanimity prevailed on the subject of petitioning parliament to change

the punishment of robbing bleachgreens from death to transportation for life, or a system of confinement in penitentiary houses, if the legislature should adopt the plan of Sir Samuel Romilly in respect to the erection and management of such places of confinement. To be of any service, they must certainly be managed very differently from our gaols. In America they are popularly called *SETTERING HOUSES*, a title to which our gaols can lay no claim. It is truly pleasing to observe that the public mind is rapidly progressive on the subject of an alteration in our criminal code, and that the sentiment gains ground dictated alike by humanity and sound policy, to substitute milder punishments strictly inflicted, to greater severity, as the extreme rigour of a law defeats its own purpose, by being only sanguinary in the letter, while it is very laxly enforced.

The following are the resolutions adopted at the meeting:

At a meeting of the proprietors of linen and cotton bleach-greens, held in Belfast, the 9th of November, 1810:

JOHN McCANCE, esq. in the Chair;

The following Resolutions were agreed to...

That notwithstanding the severity of the law, which punishes the robbing of bleach-greens with death, offences of this kind continue to be multiplied, owing, in great measure, to the lenity of prosecutors, the unwillingness of juries to convict, and the general leaning to the side of mercy, when the punishment is, by the common consent of mankind, considered as disproportioned to the offence.

That the severity of the law having been found to defeat the execution of it, we are of the opinion, that it would tend to the diminution of crimes, and the more effectual punishment of offenders, if certainity of punishment were substituted for severity.

That a petition to the house of Commons, praying a change of the punishment of death to transportation for life, or a lengthened period of confinement in penitentiary houses, provided a system of confinement in such houses should hereafter be adopted by the Legislature, having been agreed to by this meeting, be forwarded to Sir Samuel Romilly, to present on the meeting of parliament.

That William Stevenson, Archibald Baskie, William Thomson, Robert Williamson, and John Hancock, are appointed a Committee to procure names to this pe-

tion, and correspond with the trade in other places, soliciting their co-operation in this petition, either by the addition of their signatures, or by separate petitions to a similar effect; and that they forward this petition timely to Sir Samuel Romilly, to present.

That the thanks of this meeting be presented to Sir Samuel Romilly, for his benevolent exertions to abridge the number of capital offences; as we are convinced such a mode would lessen the number of crimes, and tend to the more strict execution of the law, and that we hope he will persevere in his work of humanity and enlightened policy.

JOHN M'CANICE.

The petition it is intended to give in a future number, after it has been presented to the house of Commons.

The Resolutions of the meeting of Bleachers, held at Belfast on the 9th November, having been forwarded to Sir Samuel Romilly, the following answer has been received:

Lincoln's Inn, Nov. 29, 1810.

SIR,

I shall have very great pleasure in presenting to the House of Commons the petition of which you have transmitted me a copy, and in promoting the object of it to the best of my abilities. The thanks of the gentlemen present at the meeting, held at Belfast on the 9th of the present month, which you have been kind enough to forward to me, are extremely grateful and flattering to me. Next to the consciousness of endeavouring to discharge well an important duty which I owe to my fellow creatures, the best reward I can receive for any exertions which I may make, is the applause of those who take a lively interest in the cause of humanity and justice.

I am, Sir,

Very respectfully,

Your most obt. servt.

SAMUEL ROMILLY.

To John Hancock, Lisburn.

A school on the Lancastrian plan has been lately opened in Lisburn, for the education of poor girls, in which, in addition to the usual school learning, sewing, knitting and other work for females are taught. This school is under the management of six young women, who attend in rotation, and perform the office of teachers. By thus mixing with children in the lower ranks of life, they are in a capacity to do much good, not only by instructing the children in useful branches of

learning, but by superintending their morals and manners, and bringing them into habits of regularity and civilization. The true doctrine of equality may in such a school be practically taught by those in higher ranks instructing others, and endeavouring to advance them in increased propriety and decorum of manners; the good effects of which it is hoped, will remain in future life, and attach the instructors and instructed to each other with mutual benefit. This intermixture of ranks may be highly beneficial, and tend on the one hand to remove hauteur towards supposed inferiors, and on the other, induce an improved gentleness of manners among the poor, without, however, breaking down their independence, or teaching them servility. In all plans for the relief and improvement of the poor, great care should be taken to cherish a becoming spirit of independence in them as being highly favourable to efforts in virtue, for they who are taught to look upon themselves in a degraded rank, soon lose that self-respect which is essential to produce good conduct. Fifty girls are now enrolled as scholars, and it is intended shortly to increase the number. On the first of the month, premiums are distributed to those who have made a satisfactory progress, but those girls are excluded from receiving them, who have, during the month, been punished for want of cleanliness, or other misconduct. They are particularly instructed to make and mend their own clothes, a matter of the highest importance to females in all the various situations in which they may be placed in future life.

Among the numerous bankruptcies which the pressure of the times has occasioned, the name of Sir Richard Phillips appears. He is proprietor of the London Monthly Magazine, and a bookseller and publisher of considerable eminence, and is well known as a daring, dashing speculator in literature. He states that he has effects to pay 45s. in the pound, or in other words, that he will have a surplus of seventy or eighty thousand pounds, after payment of his debts. His case is a striking illustration of the difficulty of meeting pressing engagements in the present times, and shows the liability, if prudence is wanting, of commercial speculation ending in wrecked hopes. Speculation in every line, appears to have produced a re-action on its ardent votaries. It must be admitted, that he encouraged

many authors by giving them large prices for the copy-right of their works. But then he printed many of these works in a most expensive manner, and adorned them with costly embellishments. He contributed with other publishers to injure literature by splendid editions, on hot-pressed cream-coloured paper, with all the nick-nackeries of foppish decorations. These practices have tended almost to confine the purchase of books to the rich, or to common-stock libraries, and very nearly to render literature only an aristocratic gratification. The bubble has burst; loss has been sustained on these costly books, and we have the consolation to hope that books will be printed on less expensive terms. The cause of literature would thus be greatly advantaged.

Died, at Athy, on the 4th Nov. 1810, aged 47 years, Joseph Devoy, an eminent land-surveyor, and an able and skilful engineer, eldest son of Michael Devoy, of Leinster-Lodge, (who is in his 96 year,) and brother to Michael Devoy, jun. of Kill. He was lineally descended of O'Deevy, of Ballyfin, in the Queens-county, who on that fatal morning of the murder of Mullemast, the 1st day of Jan. 1577, was possessed of 27 townlands, 24 of which bore the name of Clunne, Ballyfin, Cromouge, and Dunbrin, all in the Queens-county. The O'Deevies Sept was one of the 7 Septs of Leix; was a very numerous and great family, and at times had a very great patronage in that county. (See Rawson's Statistical Survey of the county Kildare, for the murder of the Queens-county gentlemen, and also Correy's Review of the Civil Wars of Ireland, page 11; and Lec's Memorial, Manuscript, Trinity College, Dublin.)

Died, in Belfast, on the 5th October, Mr. Hugh Kirk. The following is a part of his written directions to his executors: 'It is my particular request that as little money as possible be expended on the funeral; my fixed opinion being, that whatever is so spent, more than common decency requires, is worse than lost, it is a robbery on the surviving part of the family. Let my coffin be of plain deal, painted either black or oak colour, which you please, with no escutcheons, except the two with handles at the ends—neither name nor age on it—no hearse—no headstone—no scarfs—no gloves—no spirits, tobacco or pipes—all these are utterly vain and useless. Not meaning hereby to restrict you

from exercising your discretion with regard to such necessary refreshment as my house will afford to my particular friends and the bearers to my bier. The Poor-house grave-yard being the nearest, and not more expensive than the others (I suppose), and the money applied to charitable purposes, I wish you to give it the preference, especially for the reason last named.'

TRIAL OF SAMUEL PENROSE, FOR THE ASSAULT OF JOS. PETERS RICKMAN.

The following singular trial lately occurred at Cork. The prosecutor is an Englishman from Reading in Berkshire, and was formerly a preacher among the Quakers, but has latterly been disowned by them. He has been travelling for some months in Ireland, often preaches publicly in the streets, and speaks in the meetings of the Quakers, contrary to their inclinations.* Such an intrusion cannot be justified; it is a violation of decorum, and of that right which is due to all societies to be allowed to meet unmolested. But the opposition given to him in some places is very inconsistent with the doctrine of forbearance which the Quakers hold out as one of their distinguishing characteristics. Strong opposition frequently defeats the end proposed, while the patient bearing of intrusion very generally wears out the intruder, and produces more speedily peace, and a cessation of the intrusion. The Quakers should also reflect, that their early members were frequently in the habit of practising similar interruptions on other societies, and complained bitterly of the usage they received on such occasions. Joseph Rick-

* Since this trial was selected from the public papers, for insertion in our pages, and which lay over from want of room, and since these introductory observations were penned, Joseph Rickman died in Dublin. The interest excited by the trial remains, however, undiminished. It is a curious struggle between fanaticism on the part on the prosecutor, and of cruel behaviour on the part of the defendant; rendered still more disgraceful from the place of its occurrence. It is to be regretted that no disapprobation was publicly expressed by the society in whose presence the outrage was committed.

man justifies his conduct on the same ground as the early Quakers. Both supposed they were actuated by a sense of duty : but the judgment of individuals in their own cases ought not to be admitted as a justification of breaches of decorum, or of violating the rights of others by a forcible intrusion into religious assemblies, as such intrusions are justly referrible to enthusiasm and fanaticism. In the present instance it may be just to remark that the defendant was not in close connexion with the society.

Samuel Penrose was indicted for assaulting, and striking Joseph Peters Rickman, on the morning of the 9th instant, at the meeting-house of the society of Quakers, in Cork.

The first witness examined was Joseph Peters Rickman himself, who appeared an old emaciated man, with a bandage tied round his head ; on his being presented with the book, he observed, that he wished to take the oath in the most solemn manner ; he therefore put one knee on the table, whilst he was repeating the oath.

Examined by Mr. Mannix.—Remembers the morning of the 9th instant, was in the meeting-house of the society of friends ; stood up with an intention of preaching, when the traverser came up, caught him by the collar, and drew him to the door ; he then threw him as a child, when his face came against the pebbles, luckily not against a projecting one, or his life would be endangered, a small contusion in this part would be fatal. Here the witness entered into a learned explanation of the parts ; he stated that he had no previous quarrel with the traverser.

Cross-examined by counsellor McCarthy.—Is of the universal catholic religion whose members are the true sons of Jesus, and are spread over the earth ; wishes that his heart was as open as glass to the sun ; studied in no college, was not expelled ; quitted them voluntarily ; did not like counsel to condemn religion ; was in town about three weeks ; was part of the time at R. Mountjoy's ; refused for some time to answer the question, whether Mountjoy had any love for the Quakers, until ordered by the court ; knows he is bound by his oath to tell the whole truth ; Mountjoy has no love for the Quakers ; thinks, however, he is a friend to the Quakers ; but not to their abominable corruption ; thinks that respectable society does not patronize abominable corruptions ;

found his company disagreeable, yet went into the society's meeting-house.

Witness and Mountjoy have an indifferent opinion of the society, because those corruptions are not disowned, though they still avow their doctrines. By those, Jesus Christ is president of their meetings, and their constitution forbids any premeditated discourses ; probably should have spoken on the morning he was assaulted ; but went with no disposition ; when at the meeting, rose from his seat and went to the opposite side ; remarked that counsel talked with levity ; recollects his oath ; believes he had more reverence for an oath than counsel himself, and considered him grossly indecent ; did go in to preach among a society he disliked ; disliked it for its mixtures and certain corruptions among its body ; believes the act of traverser proceeded either from the impulse of the moment or to curry favour with the body ; never saw traverser before the day of the assault ; never spoke to him, how could he speak to him when he did not see him before ? cannot impute any motive to his conduct, and knows nothing of him only what he has learned subsequent to the present action. Understands since he is called the Black Tyrant, and is known all over the country as a monster ; prosecutor declared his sight terrifies him, and he cannot bear it. Quakers entertain a great many opinions in common with other sects ; attended their meetings often since he came to town : knows Morris and Wright called on him ; believes it was to impart some counsel ; if they requested him not to attend, would still have gone as he did through all Ireland ; was received well at Youghal till a monthly meeting took place ; was then shut out ; prosecutor declared it had no authority since the glorious revolution, which established the rights of these kingdoms ; the members could not close the gate, nor was it any violation of law, if he put his foot to force it open ; behaved with civility to Morris, though he accused him of defaming prosecutor from the gallery, and said that Morris ought to be exposed.—[Here witness ejaculated on the supposed severity of counsel—Oh ! if my king knew of your conduct.]—It was not usual for him to appeal, but was struck with the levity of the court ; and even counsel himself would be struck with awful visitation on his death-bed. He, (prosecutor) had an interview with the bishop of Durham, previous to his going on his

present mission, who told him he respected all the itinerants, and prosecutor replied, his duty was to love God and honour the king. Prosecutor declared it was contrary to law to shut up the door of a religious meeting-house; went the evening of the day he was assaulted to communicate what the meeting were unworthy to hear, and that was an awful lesson of gospel love; confess it was a respectable society, and it would be the height of presumption to call it otherwise. He went there to impart something of awful concern to the minds of the young persons when he observed them sitting for two hours in stupid silence. There might be a few solid persons among them, but they generally were employed about their business, and thinking more of pounds, shillings, and pence; his going to the meeting he believes, was agreeable to the greater part of the body; knows so, from a variety of conversations, and from a number of letters with which his pockets were filled; conceives it his duty, though of weakly constitution; he always preserved the fairest character, he quitted the society two years since, and belonged to it his whole life before, he understands its rules well: There is no such thing as a license to preach, his certificate was not withdrawn but he delivered it up; knows Ruben Harvey, was at the door yesterday and asked him out, prosecutor won't give his opinion of the character of R. Harvey, was at length obliged to confess it is considered highly respectable by the public, though prosecutor conceives a large part considers it the reverse on religious points; don't recollect whether he was at the meeting on Thursday; asks a young man of the name of Mountjoy if he were; appeals to "his dear jury," and declares he will not be bullied by counsel. Prosecutor then declared he found his memory strengthened; was there on that day; went to communicate good advice;—declares counsel was as ignorant of the grounds of his memory as the child unborn; did not at the meeting say they were unworthy of being saved; did not controvert with acrimony; did not say it was ridiculous to affirm and not to swear. R. H. said nothing but that he should not enter; was at the meeting five or six times; had reason to believe it was agreeable to the greater part, but those employed in commercial pursuits; did not use any abusive epithets to R. Harvey; acknowledges he called him purse-proud and upstart; thinks it a decent epithet if rightly

applied. It was not contrary to christian peace to call him ignorant and upstart; it was not to violate the peace, nor to gratify his (the prosecutor's) feelings; but to bow and humble him. Here the prosecutor exclaimed as he did frequently during the trial, gracious God! is this a court of law; every time he went to the meeting he preached; his soul yearned to see them sit month after month in silence. Some of the members waited on him very affectionately, who were in strict unity with the body; amongst whom were W. and T. Martin. They entirely disapproved of the conduct of the traverser; who is not a resident of the town; but has a house near Fermoy.—To a question from a Jurymen, prosecutor declared none of the body addressed him before preaching, but John Morris.

Dr. Osborne was examined as to the wound or rather scratch, when it turned out to be of a very trivial nature, the prosecutor attending to annoy the meeting the same evening.

Counselor McCarthy for the defence—Gentlemen of the Jury, it has fallen to my lot in this case to address you upon the circumstances implied in the allegation of the prosecutor against my client. You have witnessed the theatrical exhibition of this evidence, and you will appreciate it accordingly. What credit, I will ask you, can reasonable men attach to the man, who, counterfeiting the message of peace and 'Gospel Love,' is so led astray by the irritability—and more exorbitant I have never witnessed—of a distempered, docting, and fanatic mind?

Gentlemen, it is not possible, that this wretched old man could be impressed with the solemnity of the oath he has taken, throughout its entire extent, when he attaches to me an individual, hitherto, and at this moment perfectly unknown to him, a levity of consideration for that awful pledge? It is not possible, nor can I for a moment, imagine, that you will be otherwise impressed than I am upon this head; besides you have seen his pertinacity of refusal to comply with the formalities of the court in answering questions other than his own perverse inclination led him to—Add to this the unwillingness he evinced in reply to the question of the character of Ruben Harvey than whom a more amiable and meritorious man did not exist in society—Weigh his declarations also regarding that equally respectable man, whom he "for the purpose of self-bowing, and humiliation," names

upstart and false friend,"—reflect, I say, on those glaring points of his testimony, and decide between this ridiculous "religious reformer," and the respectable and lameless society which he has stigmatized with corruption.

Gentleman, is it to be tolerated that a mountebank, half actor, all doctor, shall hold the genuine principles of religious liberty, for his invasion of every religious worship, whose doctrines and constitutions his fanatic mind may lead him to disturb? Shall this modern St. Paul, this infuriated postle of the nineteenth century, be quietly permitted to run open-mouthed upon every circle of religious establishment; infusing into the young minds of those who may listen to his vile cant, a distaste and disrepute for the profession of that worship adopted by their fathers? Gentlemen, there is no man more decidedly inclined to religious toleration than myself. But I ask some whom I see in that box, members of the establishment, whether they would calmly view such a canting hypocritical ruffian, indecently obtrude himself upon their attention in church, when their worthy bishop was addressing them from the pulpit? I am certain that he would speedily meet a reception not at all less rude, than the subject of this trial. Do not imagine that I advocate a savage act of violence; but when I assure you that the whole transaction has arisen out of an associated resentment against the

respectable body of Quakers; when I prove to you that this old envenomed serpent has, conjunctly with an unworthy, because a disgraced and discarded member, sat brooding over an administration of the rankest poison in place of gospel love. When you are convinced that this charlatan has been instigated by his "dear Richard Mountjoy," who now sits behind him, the friendly minister to his memory, you will not regard his appeal so markedly directed to the "principles of the glorious revolution and the English constitution." Gentlemen, this prosecutor has told you, but will you believe him, that he did not go profanely to oppose the doctrines of that meeting in the month of September, but from his prior administration, it appears his confirmed intention was to act so. I shall not any longer trespass on your attention than to forwarn you of the hardship which every society is liable to from the insane visitation of such fanatics claiming a legal sanction totally opposed to such a proceeding. I now conclude by admonishing you not to establish a precedent in this case for successive imitation—it is equally fraught with danger to all societies and merits your distinct and decided reprobation.

The recorder commented at some length upon the evidence.

The Jury, after a short deliberation; brought in a verdict of guilty, and the recorder sentenced him (S. Penrose) to pay a fine of £30.

AGRICULTURAL REPORT.

From Nov. 20, till Dec. 20, 1810.

WINTER is a season so unfavourable to most or all of the farmers' operations in the field, that it furnishes a very scanty supply of materials for an agricultural report.

The long continuance of wet weather has protracted the raising of the potato crops to a very late period, and consequently retarded the sowing of wheat so much, that it is thought there will not be the usual quantity next season, unless the practice of sowing in spring is resorted to, which in warm favourable summers has been frequently found to succeed better than when sown too far on in the winter. It has been remarked that the crops of potatoes in many parts of the country, were not turned out so productive as their appearance gave reason to expect, a general complaint seems to prevail of the roots being smaller than usual, particularly where the old black kind was planted, and some injury has been done to those that were not dug out at the time of the two or three nights of hard frost, and which have been considerably increased by the proprietors having imprudently hurried them out of the ground, and binned them up before the thaw came on; the consequence of which has been, that they have mixed many frosted roots with the sound ones, and the whole is in danger of being lost, unless they are timely opened, and carefully sorted.

The price of grain has been nearly stationary for two months back—some advance in the price of potatoes has lately taken place.

Flax, which at the beginning of the season, was sold at a very low rate, has experienced a considerable rise; and as large orders are now filling up for the English and Scotch markets, it is probable the prices will keep up, and the farmer find himself so amply compensated for the labour and expense of cultivation, as to induce him to increase his exertions in the production of this necessary material in our staple manufacture.

As last summer was extremely favourable for the ripening and saving of seed; it is to be hoped the growers of flax were generally so wise as to avail themselves of it, and not trust to a supply from foreign countries, which at all times is precarious, and may, if depended on, again involve us in difficulties similar to those we experienced two years ago.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

To complete the crisis of commercial distress, with British manufactures burned on the continent, and the declaration of war on the part of Sweden, (so that both sides of the Sound are in possession of hostile powers, to the exclusion of all trade with the Baltic, unless the small part unconsciously connived at by the continental powers, in the shape of exports from them) we have now the probability of a contest with the United States of North America. The French Emperor having revoked his Berlin and Milan decrees, and our government still retaining, or evading to relinquish their orders in council, that source of so much calamity already to these countries, the president of the United States has declared their ports open to the vessels of France, and that they will be shut against ours on the second of February next, by the operation of their non-intercourse act, if the British orders are not rescinded before that date. In the mean time, some American vessels entering into French ports, have been seized by British cruisers, and await the decisions of our Admiralty courts. America at length appears decidedly to have made a stand, and it now rests with our government to choose between the repeal of their decrees, or open hostility with America. The determination of this important question may in a considerable degree hinge on the change of administration, expected to result from the regency. The time is so limited, that any decision can now scarcely reach America, previously to the term fixed for the termination of amicable intercourse. If the trade with America should be permanently interrupted, we may then be considered nearly to have reached the climax of commercial distress. We have the consolation to hope that all the flaxseed will have been shipped from America previous to the operation of the non-intercourse act.

We are enabled to state from good private authority, that on a conference with the Marquis Wellesley, he informed some American merchants who waited on him, that the intentions of ministers would shortly be made known to the chairman of the American chamber. It is thought that the orders in council would be rescinded, and a *vigorous real blockade* carried into effect *against certain of the French ports*, and this measure, it is conceived, would do away the *constructive blockades*, and satisfy the Americans, who very justly object to the fiction of a nominal blockade, while the ports are unattended by a blockading force.

A letter from London gives the state of things in a few words. "The linen trade is uncommonly dull: indeed business of all kinds is quite as bad: the country begins to feel the effects of the *wise measures* of our rulers." On this feeling spreading, and the difficulties of the times pressing on individuals, must our hopes of amendment be built, if by such pressure a general sentiment in favour of peace is excited. While the war lasts, we can only look for a continuance and aggravation of distress, affecting our trade and manufactures. The pressure may occasionally be felt more heavily in one branch than another, but the restoration of peace can alone remove the load.

The distresses of the times affecting Britain at least in an equal proportion as Ireland, prove the fallacy of the argument, that our calamities arise from the union. We must look to the war for a common cause. Two hundred and seventy three

bankruptcies, in Britain, besides stoppages and compositions almost innumerable during last month, loudly proclaim the fact.

During this month, some alarm was occasioned by a temporary suspicion of the stability of the bank in Dublin, commonly called Beresford's bank, from the name of the first partner under the old firm. The other partners, Ball, Plunket and Doyne, after removing Beresford from their connexion, succeeded in convincing the public of their stability. While paper, unbottomed on payments in specie, at the option of the holder, continues to be the basis of our circulating medium, such shocks may be frequently expected.

Large exportations of wheat from Limerick, have been sent out to feed the army in Portugal, and also the non-military population now crammed together in Lisbon, while a great share of the provisions of that country was destroyed, to prevent them falling into the hands of the French. War is not only frequently attended by famine in those countries, more immediately the seat of its ravages, but also is productive of scarcity and high prices in situations remote from the actual scene. It was expected that in consequence of these exportations, wheat and flour would have risen with us, but they still continue to decline; the abundance of last harvest being so great, as to resist any tendency to advance, notwithstanding this unexpected drain.

Exchange on London rose about the beginning of the month, as high as $9\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. It shortly dropped to $8\frac{1}{2}$, and has since fluctuated from $8\frac{1}{2}$ to 9 per cent. Discount on bills on Dublin, at 61 days sight, continues at 1 per cent, and the discount on bank notes is about 2 per cent.

NATURALIST'S REPORT.

From November 20, till December 20.

Along the woods, along the Moorish fens,
Sighs the sad genius of the coming storm;
And up the loose disjointed cliffs,
And fractured mountain wild, the brawling brook
And cave, presageful, send a hollow moan,
Resounding long in listening fancy's ear.

THOMPSON.

IN our northern climate, at this season of inactivity among most of the vegetable productions of nature, there is little to draw our attention abroad, the cold, wet, and stormy weather, which has prevailed, since the beginning of November, in addition to the Autumnal plants mentioned in the last report, seems to have shed its unfriendly influence over even the last class of vegetables, and prevented the appearance of the Fungi, or Mushrooms, those forerunners of putrefaction and winter, whose strange variety of form and colours would make them desirable plants in every curious garden, could they be regularly cultivated: but hitherto only one species has engaged attention, although several other kinds merit equally the gardiner's skill to offer them as another article in the catalogue of modern luxuries.

Mention is made in some of the periodical productions of the British press, that great numbers of those birds called Crosbills (*Loxia curvirostra*) have been observed this season in England. In particular situations where Larch trees abound, they have been long since seen in Ireland; Rutty, is however, the first Irish author who mentions them as natives; they have been seen at Tullamore park, near Briansford, county Down, from about the time the Larch trees began to bear seed plentifully; this summer they have appeared at several other places, but not in such plenty that they could be reckoned mischievous, as is mentioned in the English publications.—The curious structure of the bill of this bird must excite the admiration of even the most incurious, and prove a fine subject for those philosophers who pursue the doctrine of final causes.

The Fieldfares which arrived October 31, appear to have passed on to the southward, as few are now to be seen.

The only uncommon bird which has been seen in the neighbourhood of Belfast this season was a single specimen of the Shoveler (*Anas clypeata*) which was found in Belfast market on the 21st of November, and the grey Plover (*Tringa aquatarola*) found the 7th of December.

Dec. 5th...Leaves of the Saffron Crocus (*Crocus sativus*) emerged, but no flowers have appeared on this species this season; the naked flowering Crocus (*Crocus nudiflorus*) had the flowers ready for opening, had there been a blink of sunshine.

No Thrushes singing, and the Woodlark also silent; but the common Wren has been heard singing several times during this period.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

From November 20, till December 20.

We may certainly say that few people remember a season in which so many very wet days have occurred in the same space of time, as since the conclusion of the fine weather of our Autumn.—But for our comfort we may recur to the old adage of “long foul long fair,” for although our climate is not regulated by those laws which produce that undeviating return of wind and weather, which distinguish the regions within the tropics; we may yet, as certainly expect after a long series of any particular weather, a contrary to prevail, as an inhabitant of India may expect the North-easterly after the South-westerly Monsoon.

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| November 21, | Very wet. |
| 22, | Showery. |
| 23, 24, | Fair. |
| 25, | Showers. |
| 26, 27, | Very wet and stormy; frosty nights. |
| 28, | Fair, calm, dark weather; frosty nights. |
| 29, 30, | Showery; frosty night. |
| December 1, 2, | Hail and snow showers. |
| 3, | Showery. |
| 4, | Wet. |
| 5, 6, | Dry dark days. |
| 7, | Light showers. |
| 8, | Snow on the mountains, frost. |
| 9, | Frosty. |
| 10, | Snow falling. |
| 11, | Fine day, snow about three inches deep. |
| 12, | Very wet. |
| 13, 14, | Showery. |
| 15, 16, | Fine days. |
| 17, | Showery. |
| 18, | Wet. |
| 19, | Showery. |
| 20, | Very Wet. |

The range of the Barometer has but once been as high as 30, on the 17th of December; on the 28th of November it was as low as 28.8, the rest of the time it was but 6 times as high as 29.7.

The range of the Thermometer has been various; on the 24th of November, in the morning, it was as high as 50°; on the 5th of December 49½°, 17th 47°, November the 27th it was 33°, 1st of December, 33-9th 33°, on the 2d 31°, but on the 11th it was as low as 27°.

The wind has been observed S. W. 18 times, S. E. twice, N. E. 3 times, N. W. 5 times, W. 2 times, E. 1 time, S. 1 time.

CELESTIAL PHENOMENA.

FOR JANUARY, 1811.

FIRST, the Moon is on our meridian at 46 min. past 5, afternoon; having above her, to the west, the 4 stars in square, the two eastern of them being near the meridian, and to the east of her we may observe the three first stars of the Ram, and beyond them, Jupiter in the middle space between these stars and Aldebaran.

Fifth, She passes our meridian at nine, having above her to the west, the Pleiades, and below her to the east, Aldebaran and the Hyades. Her course is directed through the latter stars, and she passes the 3d of the Bull, at 23 min. past 11; at 9, she is $49^{\circ} 51'$ from the second of the Twins.

Tenth, She is perceived at her rising to be in the barren space of the Crab, and nearly in a line drawn through the two first stars of the Twins and produced. Her course is directed to a point, under the first of the Lion; and at nine she is $24^{\circ} 39'$ from Aldebaran.

Fifteenth, She rises under the second of the Virgin, and nearly at the same time with the seventh of this constellation. She passes the ecliptic or sun's apparent path in the afternoon.

Twentieth, She rises under the two first stars of the Balance having passed the seventh at 49 min. before *one*, and at 59 min. past *two*, an occultation of the 8th takes place, which ends 41 min. past *three*; as she ascends the heavens, we perceive below her Antares, and the stars of the Scorpion, and at six in the morning, the group formed by Mars and the two first of the Balance, the Moon, and the stars of the Scorpion, will decorate the eastern hemisphere.

Twenty-fourth, At three quarters past five in the afternoon, is new Moon, but without an eclipse.

Thirtieth, She is on the meridian at 10 min. past five, having above her to the west the three first stars of the Ram, and below her to the east Menkar with the small stars in the head of the Whale.

Mercury is in his inferior conjunction on the 31st of the month, and at his greatest elongation on the 17th; during the former part of the month his latitude is south, but he will be sufficiently high above the horizon, to gratify the observer after sun-set, for several days before and after his greatest elongation. The Moon passes him on the 25th.

Venus is a morning star, her duration above the horizon before sun-rise, daily increasing; on the 17th she is stationary. The Moon passes her on the 22d.

Mars moves with a direct motion through $16\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$, being at first seen above the 10th and 11th of the Virgin, and he passes between these stars. On the 11th he is 51 min. north of the eleventh. The Moon passes him on the 18th.

Jupiter is on the meridian at 32 min. past 8, on the evening of the first, and at 14 min. past 7, on the 19th. On the 16th he is stationary, having till that time a retrograde motion, and afterwards a direct one. He is the whole time near a line drawn between the Pleiades and Menkar. The Moon passes him on the 5th.

Saturn has a direct motion through about $9\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$. He is an hour and a half above the horizon before sun-rise on the first, and as the Sun is going rapidly from him; this duration increases daily. The Moon passes him on the 21st.

Herschell has a direct motion of nearly a degree, and affords greater opportunities for observation than Saturn. To discover him, we must first fix on the first of the Balance which leads us to the two sixteenths, the small stars nearest to the east of it, and carrying our eye a little more than $1\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ farther, we shall with some care discover this small planet nearly in the line between the first of the Balance and the second of the Scorpion. The Moon passes him on the 19th.

ECLIPSES OF JUPITER'S SATELLITES.

| 1st SATELLITE. | | | | 2d SATELLITE. | | | | 3d SATELLITE. | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|----|----|----|-------------------|----|----|----|---------------|----|----|--------|-------|----|----|----|
| <i>Emersions.</i> | | | | <i>Emersions.</i> | | | | | | | | | | | |
| DAYS. | H. | M. | S. | DAYS. | H. | M. | S. | DAYS. | H. | M. | S. | DAYS. | H. | M. | S. |
| 2 | 7 | 12 | 12 | 2 | 18 | 0 | 36 | 1 | 17 | 29 | 2 Im. | | | | |
| 4 | 1 | 41 | 2 | 6 | 7 | 19 | 26 | 1 | 19 | 41 | 8 E. | | | | |
| 5 | 20 | 9 | 57 | 9 | 20 | 37 | 57 | 8 | 21 | 30 | 18 Im. | | | | |
| 7 | 14 | 38 | 47 | 13 | 9 | 56 | 41 | 8 | 23 | 43 | 11 E. | | | | |
| 9 | 9 | 7 | 42 | 16 | 23 | 15 | 10 | 16 | 1 | 32 | 2 Im. | | | | |
| 11 | 3 | 36 | 33 | 20 | 12 | 33 | 50 | 16 | 3 | 45 | 40 E. | | | | |
| 12 | 22 | 5 | 29 | 24 | 1 | 52 | 15 | 23 | 5 | 33 | 3 Im. | | | | |
| 14 | 16 | 34 | 22 | 37 | 15 | 10 | 52 | 23 | 7 | 47 | 28 E. | | | | |
| 16 | 11 | 3 | 18 | 31 | 4 | 29 | 15 | 30 | 9 | 33 | 58 Im. | | | | |
| 18 | 5 | 32 | 10 | | | | | 30 | 11 | 49 | 9 E. | | | | |
| 20 | 0 | 1 | 7 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 21 | 18 | 29 | 59 | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| 1st Sat. continued. | | | |
|---------------------|----|----|----|
| 23 | 12 | 58 | 58 |
| 25 | 7 | 27 | 50 |
| 27 | 1 | 56 | 49 |
| 28 | 20 | 25 | 43 |
| 30 | 14 | 54 | 42 |

Look to the right hand.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

THE letter to a young man going abroad, by A. Z. the 2d paper of the Symbols of Pythagoras; T. on Irish timber; the continuation of the Ramble in 1809, by S. M.S. and the paper on Envy, Hatred, and Malice, by Medicus; have been received.

The increased quantity of the Political head has obliged us to defer a considerable portion of the articles on arts, manufactures, &c. prepared for this month, to the next number.

The quere of Simplex in relation to the Political Retrospect, came too late for insertion in this number. It is intended that it shall be inserted in the next, accompanied with a reply.

The Editor begs leave to refer Mystis to the notice to correspondents, in the 17th No. in which he will see that the Proprietors themselves determine the admission of the papers presented for insertion. The Editor did not approve of the paper from Larne, to which Mystis objects; and would have rejected it, if its admission depended on him; but does not think that the gentlemen who admitted it deserve censure, as it has always been their principle to encourage the free discussion of all subjects within their limits.

ERRATA.

Page 383, 2d col. line 23, for *Alantago* read *Alantejo*.

After page 388, the two next half sheets are wrong numbered; they begin at 383, instead of 389.

Page 370, 2d col. 8th line, for *desolate* read *dissolute*.

— 372, 2d col. 12th line, for *these* read *the*.

— 383, 2d col. 33d line, for *dont* read *do not*.

— 389, 1st col. 38th line, dele *still*.

— 2d col. 9th line, for *appearance* read *appearances*.

— 385, 2d col. 35th line, } for *Hutkinson* read *Hustinson*.

— 396, — 4th line, }

— 395, — 40th line, for *containing* read *continuing*.

— 373, — 27th line, for *decreed* read *decried*.

— 387, 1st col. 31st line, for *Percival* read *Perceval*.

— 394, — 14th line from bottom, for *vacilling* read *vacillating*.

— 395, — 32d line, for *manufacturers* read *manufacteries*.

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